DAILY COURIER.
BY W. N. HALDEMAN.
TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.
For one year, by mail........$12 00
For six months, by mail........6 00
For three months, by mail........3 25
For one month, by mail........1 25
Payable always in advance.
☞ To city subscribers, per week, 25 cents, payable to the carrier.

LOUISVILLE WEEKLY COURIER.

VOL. 20. WHOLE NO. 1,011. LOUISVILLE, KY., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1866. NEW SERIES, NO. 11.

WEEKLY COURIER.
TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.
Single copy, one year........$2 50
Five copies, one year........11 25
Ten copies, one year........20 00
An extra copy sent gratis for every club of ten.
☞ Payable always in advance.
☞ Money sent by Express or in "Registered" letters at our risk.

The Question Settled.

Since the close of the rebellion it has been a mooted question, much discussed and occupying the minds of many of the most eminent jurists in the country, whether or not those persons who were identified with the late rebellion were guilty of treason or not. That the question has two sides is very apparent to men of even ordinary comprehension. The Southern States went off upon a doctrine which was as old as the Government—the doctrine that as there was no common arbiter between the States and the Federal Government, the States themselves had the right to judge of the extent of the injuries inflicted upon them, as well as of the mode and manner of redress. That the other party to the conflict did not recognize this doctrine is by no means conclusive against the theory entertained by the Southern States. They withdrew from the Union, not as conspirators against the Government, but as States having the right to do the thing they did do.

After the war had commenced the United States Government did, in the first instance, regard all who were supporting the Southern cause as traitors, and so declared them, but the folly and impracticability of such a course was very soon made manifest, where upon the Government revised its action and concluded to treat the Confederate Government as a foreign power, and to regard its soldiers and seamen as belligerents, who, if captured, should be entitled to all the privileges of prisoners of war.

It will be remembered that the crew of the first privateer captured were denominated as pirates, and ordered to be tried as such; but that upon the remonstrance of the Confederate Government, and in consequence of its threats of a bloody retaliation, which after the battle of Manassas it had the power to do, the idea was abandoned, and the prisoners were placed upon a war footing. Subsequently, systematic arrangements were made by the agents of the two Governments for the regular exchange of prisoners. Having thus recognized the Confederates as belligerents, it was impossible any longer to look upon them, or speak of them, as traitors. It will be remembered, too, that Mr. Lincoln himself met the envoys of the Confederate Government at or near Fortress Monroe, and conferred with them upon the terms of peace. It would not have been proper for him to have negotiated with traitors, and he evidently did not so consider them.

In the surrender of the armies of Lee, Johnston, Taylor, and Smith, it was especially provided that the soldiers and officers of the Confederacy who had been warring upon the Government, should proceed to their homes and be unmolested by the authorities of the Government, as long as they obeyed the laws. All these facts go to show that the Confederates were always recognized during the war, while they had guns in their hands and a multitude of prisoners in their possession, as belligerents and not as traitors. And in addition to all these facts, the President himself has repeated, time after time, the declaration, that he wished some of the leading rebels brought to trial. For what? Not that they might be hung, but to test the question as to whether they have been guilty of any crime against the United States, and whether or not that crime is treason? If it was clear that the crime was treason, why the necessity of testing it? It is obvious that the President and his legal advisers do not consider the question settled, as to whether treason has been committed or not.

The common sense of every intelligent man teaches him that the uprising of eight millions of people, and their attempt to establish an independent Government, is a very different thing from a riot, or a conspiracy against the Government. It is the exercise of an inherent right, clearly and explicitly recognized and expressed in the Declaration of Independence, that when a people feel themselves oppressed by the Government under which they live, they have an undoubted right to throw it off and establish one more acceptable to them. The population involved in this effort for liberty was nearly or quite three times as great as that engaged in the struggle for independence against Great Britain. The actors in that great drama are now the heroes of our history, while the men of the Confederacy, who sacrificed and suffered as much, are denounced as traitors by foul-mouthed slanderers.

But notwithstanding the doubt and uncertainty which hangs around the legal solution of the question, the wiseacre who edits the New Albany Commercial, has settled it without argument and by a simple reference to his dictionary. He has found in that book such a word as treason and has copied the definition! Presto! Look! Don't you see it? The Southern people are traitors. He finds a parallel case in the whisky insurrection in Pennsylvania, and can see no difference between eleven States, containing eight millions of people, fighting heroically for liberty and independence, and a few hundreds of men in a State resisting a tax on whisky. Of course no argument we or any one else could make could penetrate the muddled brain of such a blockhead.

Lieut.-Gov. Jacob.

We observe that Col. Jacob has advised the caucus of the "Conservative Democratic party" in the Legislature, not to hold a State Convention. The Colonel's reasons are very good, *if true;* but we don't think they are. He thinks there is danger that the hotspurs of the Democracy who don't agree with each other, will make inflammatory harangues and split the party to atoms.

We don't fear this at all. If Colonels Jacob and Wolford, who are about the hottest of the hotspurs of Kentucky, will favor the Convention with their presence, and make such speeches in behalf of the rights of their fellow-citizens, as they have heretofore made in this State, we'll guarantee they will produce no explosion but the explosion of responsive applause and friendly greetings. As for the hotspurs of Confederate antecedents, we know of none who are not in favor of the general union of Kentuckians for all those good principles which all Kentuckians formerly sustained. No, Colonel, your imagination has magnified the possible discordances. The Kentucky Democracy remember your brave resistance to arbitrary power, and they respect you as an honest man and a patriot. The people have progressed farther than you think, and are perfectly capable of holding an harmonious convention. They will harmonize much better than their Representatives at Frankfort, who are said to move as one party.

The President Stands Firm.

The assurances contained in our telegraphic dispatches from Washington, published yesterday morning, that the President had announced in explicit language his determination to stand firmly upon the policy he has laid down, were of the most gratifying character. In his reply to the Colorado delegation he took occasion to state that the principles he entertained, and the policy he had marked out, were not the result of sudden impulse, but of long and serious thought, and that he could not be driven from them.

In his reply to the Fred. Douglass committee of negroes he gave the sable gentlemen very clearly to understand that it was not in his power, nor was it his wish or intention, to make white men out of them, and that he did not intend to adopt the vile dogmas of the Radical party. He was outspoken and manly upon all the points presented, made no concealment of his views, and left but little to be conjectured. Thad. Stevens will now understand, if he did not know before, what manner of man he and his party have to deal with, and will be able to see that if war with Andrew Johnson is what they want, that he will neither dodge nor decline it.

The Revolutionary Jacobins.

The warfare between good and evil seems everlasting. The selfish domineering passions of human nature are ever aggressive, ever seeking to trample down all that is good and holy. The champions of truth and justice are continually called upon to defend their cause—the common cause of mankind—from some assault which is new only in its form or its weapons.

The lawless and cruel spirit which in France was called Jacobinism, and which perpetrated all crimes in the name of "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity," has appeared in America with every feature of its French type—the same hypocrisy, the same cruelty, the same professions of democratic right, the same oath-breaking lawlessness.

At the very foundation of our Government appeared a party leaning toward a strong government and Federal consolidation. From this germ sprang the Federal party of New England, which, by its alien and sedition laws, started the Republic on a backward career, which would have ended in practical despotism. The people, under Jefferson and Madison, crushed out this party, but not until it had shown its wicked and traitorous character, its hostility to the growth of our own country, its jealousy of the Southern and Western States, its sympathy with Great Britain in the midst of our war, and its entire treasonable, factious spirit of discord and disunion.

Secession began with that Federal party as a cautious conspiracy, and nothing but the speedy conclusion of peace with England prevented the full development of their treason. We say *treason*, emphatically, for there was a vast difference between peaceable secession and a traitorous abandonment of their own country in time of war.

The elements of that traitor party have ever since been fermenting and fomenting in our country; threatening the dissolution of the Union because Louisiana was annexed, threatening dissolution again when Texas was annexed, denouncing our own country and sympathizing with the enemy in the war with Mexico.

A party so selfish and treasonable could never have gained much power but by seizing upon sectional jealousies and combining them with some form of delusion and fanaticism. The jealousies of the Northern and Southern States were artfully seized and combined with anti-slavery fanaticism. Sermons, newspapers and school-books, by the million, filled with false facts and violent denunciation, organized the non-slaveholding States into an anti-slavery party, ready to follow the lead of the Federal Jacobins. An irrepressible conflict to secure abolition was announced distinctly by Mr. Seward and a thousand others as their mission. When this course succeeded in bringing on the war, which the leading abolitionists desired, the whole policy of the party was developed without fear. All the conservative professions of Mr. Lincoln were disregarded, the Chicago platform itself was ignored, and the solemn declarations of Congress as to the purpose of the war, were thrust aside as rubbish by the very men who made the pledges.

The outrages which under the elder Adams our people could not endure, were not the ten-thousandth part of what is now practiced throughout the land. We have been living for four years under a despotism as arbitrary and unlimited as that of France, with far less of freedom than is enjoyed in Great Britain—far less respect to laws and constitutions—a despotism so pervasive and unlimited that we have come to regard the royal power of the Executive in its present hands as rather the least of the evils of our administration.

The Revolution is Established.—One half of our country, territorially, is enslaved, and in the other half there is but little political freedom, except with the dominant party. Our posterity are enslaved in advance by debt and by the power which disregards all constitutional liberty. The Radicals are already avowing that they have accomplished this revolution by violence—and we add by fraud, for upon an honest statement of their purposes, they would have been repudiated by the people. They have assumed the garb and professions of angels to do the work of devils. They have called themselves the Republican party, when, in fact, they are the only anti-Republican party that our country has ever contained, and we shall designate them hereafter as the *anti-Republicans*. They are hostile to State rights, to the *habeas corpus*, to the freedom of speech, freedom of elections, the right of self-government, the subordination of the military to civil power, the economical administration of the Government, the security of our homes from invasion, the sacredness of property against lawless seizure, the connexion between taxation and representation, and in fact to every principle that is recognized as *Republican*.

Can any Kentuckian be so traitorous to the spirit and principles of his forefathers, to his oath of allegiance, and to every patriotic feeling, as to aid in any manner this *anti-Republican* party?

Shall we aid the *anti-Republicans* by enfeebling or breaking up the strength of the Democratic party in this State by any unnecessary divisions in our ranks? Will conservative Democrats allow themselves to be drawn off by any such short-sighted and fatal impulse?

Our Governor on the "Bureau."

The Lexington correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette, under date of the 5th, gives the following information:

A few days ago, Judge S. S. Goodloe, of the City Court, under the statute of Kentucky, fined a negro for having a pistol in his possession. Mr. Pinkerton, agent of the Freedmen's Bureau, took the case in hand and notified Judge Goodloe that all such statutes were no longer valid, and requested him to restore the negro his pistol and remit the fine. Judge Goodloe declined to do this, not recognizing any rule of procedure in his court but that of the statutes of Kentucky. The matter was at this stage referred to Gov. Bramlette, who in answer to Judge Goodloe says: "You take the correct view of your duty. You have no power to make, unmake or amend laws, but must administer them as they exist. This you and all other officers should do, regardless of the menaces of the agents of a bureau which has no legal existence in Kentucky. The powers assumed by super-officials and agents of overriding the laws and civil authorities of the State, should be firmly met and resisted in every legal form. The whole negro population being now free, are by our laws, as they now exist, secured and protected in their rights of life, liberty and property. The slave code has nothing to do with the free negro now, and never did have. I have every reason to believe that the present General Assembly will adopt suitable and wise provisions for the benefit of the freedmen. Whether they do or not, Mr. Pinkerton ought to know that it is not in your or his provence to make, amend or disregard existing laws. Mr. Pinkerton would better subserve the true interests of the negro, and of the society and State in which he lives by locking up his bureau and losing the key, than by the course he seems bent on pursuing." The Governor has turned the whole matter over to the Legislature.

☞ The Washington correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat, a rabid Radical paper, makes the following notice of the recent passage in Congress between Messrs. Rousseau and Grinnell. The several accounts of the affair we had seen, left the impression on our mind very decidedly, that Grinnell came out of it very seriously worsted, and that, we believe, is the popular verdict:

Mr. Rousseau, of Kentucky, to-day attempted to crack the Southern whip over Mr. Grinnell, of Iowa. What was needed to make the scene complete and to revive old scenes, was to have a few of his colleagues jump to their feet and brandish bowie knifes. Mr. Grinnell was in no degree intimidated, and before he finished, Mr. Rousseau probably realized that the day for Southern bluster in the Halls of Congress had gone with the war. The whole thing is well understood here as a tit for tat for Senatorial honors at the hands of the rebel Legislature of Kentucky.

☞ There are in our national Capitol ten and a half acres of halls, galleries, rotundas, libraries, ante-rooms and corridors. The man who walks through each one from end to end, will have traveled some miles; and wherever he goes he will find little else than selfishness, demagoguery, want of principle, and decided corruption.

Misrepresentations of the South—Gen. Fisk Letting Down.

One of the greatest evils with which the Southern people have to contend in their efforts to become quiet and law-abiding citizens of the Union, is the perverse blindness or the willful malignity of those who persist in looking upon them with suspicion and regarding them as public enemies. It appears to us that no proposition can be clearer than that the great mass of the Southern people, when their armies laid down their arms and were disbanded, considered their cause as wholly lost, the effort to establish an independent government a failure, and that they resolved at once to apply themselves earnestly to the new and important duties which had so suddenly and unexpectedly devolved upon them. Among these duties was, first, obedience to the constitutional and legal authority of the Government which had overthrown them; and, second, the recognition of, and conformity to, the logical results of the war. Among these results was the abolition of slavery, and such provision for the population before held in a condition of servitude as would protect them in their newly acquired rights. These ideas were adopted as inevitable conclusions by the great body of the people, and we believe that there has been among them an honest and persistent effort to regulate their conduct in accordance therewith.

That there might have been found in the South, and that there may be still found there, refractory and impracticable men, carried away by passion, who exhibit a spirit of indignation and non-conformity more indiscreet than wise, we are not disposed to deny, but we maintain that such are exceptional cases which should not be held up as illustrations of the general opinions and conduct of the great mass of the people. Yet irresponsible scribblers, and men filled with hate and bitterness towards the Southern people, no ways mitigated by the sad spectacle of their prostration and distresses, have magnified every example of this kind, and sought to convey the impression, and fix it upon the Northern mind, that the few isolated cases of dissatisfaction they report were the true indices of public sentiment.

The maligners of the South represent the people as contumacious and still rebellious. They declare that the treatment of the freedmen is brutal in the extreme; that it is unsafe for Northern men to live in the country, and that if the military should be withdrawn the authority of the Government would be derided and trampled under foot. We do not believe a word of this to be the truth; nor do we believe that the men who give currency to such slanders are ignorant of their utter worthlessness and falsity.

Occasionally these misrepresentations are thoroughly exposed; but the practice is not on that account discontinued or lessened thereby. The interests and political schemes of a fanatical and intolerant party require these falsehoods for its nourishment and support; a system of iniquitous legislation to oppress and degrade the South must have some appearance of justification, and so the stream of falsehood rolls on.

These remarks have been suggested by a letter which appeared in the Journal, of this city, yesterday morning, from Gen. Fisk, head of the Freedmen's Bureau in this State, to Hon. J. M. Armstrong, of Frankfort.

It will be remembered that Gen. Fisk made a speech in Cincinnati not long since, in which he made some statements in regard to the treatment of freedmen in this State, which at once attracted the attention of the press and of our Legislature. The statements referred to drew from the press a prompt and indignant denial, and the Legislature at once appointed a committee to investigate and report upon the truth of Gen. Fisk's statement. When the indignant response of the press of Kentucky, and the intelligence of the action of the Legislature reached Gen. Fisk, he was in Washington city, and it was ostentatiously announced in the papers there, and in the telegraph dispatches, that he would repeat his Cincinnati speech before the Legislature on his return if permitted to do so, and substantiate all the statements he had made.

To refresh the recollection of our readers, we reprint the following extract from the Cincinnati speech:

Only the day before yesterday, in Lexington, thirteen discharged colored soldiers stood in the streets, in full sight of Henry Clay's monument, with their bodies lacerated, their backs bleeding from the cruel lash, their heads cut to the scalp, and one or two of them with their eyes put out, and what for do you suppose? Simply for going to their former masters and asking for their wives and children! I appealed to the civil authorities in their behalf, but was told that there was no law in Kentucky to help them. I heard there of a slave to be sold on a certain day; I made an arrangement with the Master Commissioner to buy him myself, as the last slave to be sold in Kentucky.

These statements were so entirely unreasonable, upon their very face, that no sane, intelligent person would have given them credit for a single moment, even if there had been no rebutting proof. They were simply preposterous. Gen. Fisk nor any one else could substantiate them, and as the time approaches when their author is to present the proof or stand convicted, he softens down very materially in his tone, and seems to lose a portion of the confidence with which he made his Cincinnati speech and his threat at Washington to vindicate the truth of his statements. The following extract from the letter to which we have referred, exhibits the present condition of his mind, and is, in its tone, quite as deprecatory as his former fulminations were belligerent and insulting. We give the extract:

I know from my own observation that there is some truth in these reports. I was at Lexington on the 15th and 16th ult. I had been expected there for many days, and a number of freedmen from the surrounding counties had congregated at that point to meet me and make known their complaints. I saw thirteen (13) colored men who had been soldiers in the army, all of whom stated that they had been maltreated by their former owners when they had returned to their old homes to ask for their wives and children. Some of them, from Garrard county, I think, with their bruised heads and swollen eyes, gave evidence of severe treatment. Others stated that they had been cruelly beaten and threatened with shooting. Bourbon, Woodford, Madison, Montgomery and Garrard counties were represented at Lexington. These men were intelligent. They were honest, and bore the evidence of maltreatment upon their persons. I assure you I *thought*, from their statements and appearance, that they had been *brutally treated*. I referred them to the proper parties, that their complaints might be duly investigated and their wrongs redressed.

Now, we ask the reader to compare the unqualified and positive statement of the speech with the very mild "*I thought*" of the letter, and then make up their judgment whether General Fisk could have been sincere, and actuated by a desire to do strict and impartial justice when he made the Cincinnati speech?

We Must Nominate.

The Democrat re-publishes a long and unfair article from the Lexington Observer against a Democratic Convention, on the ground that it will be anti-Conservative. The article, however, upsets itself by the following admission: "Situated as we are, however, the distribution of office is an *imperative duty of the party*—a duty to be discharged with a proper regard to its own interest and those of the country." Exactly so; and the party is going to perform that duty wisely and well on the first of May.

But we cannot perceive that we ought to surrender our manhood and independence from the extravagance of our gratitude—gratitude to gentlemen who aided in repealing the expatriation laws. We give thanks to all who aided in their repeal, but much more to those who had no hand in passing them, who opposed them all the time, than to those who merely repaired the wrong which they had themselves committed.

Politics and Parties in Kentucky.

The State of parties at this time in Kentucky is interesting and remarkable. Just after the most terrible war of history and the most reckless efforts of a Jacobin party in the North to pull down the very pillars of the temple of liberty, we find the people of our State, many of them fresh from the fields where they stood as foemen, living with entire tranquillity—falling back into the ordinary course of prosperous industry, and supporting with remarkable unanimity all those great principles of civil liberty, to which all Kentuckians before the war were alike devoted.

The contagious excitement of the extreme North and the extreme South are not represented among us by any considerable number of people. The spirit of secession has no adherents, for it was extinguished by battle and by treaty; and the spirit of Jacobinism represented by Stevens and Sumner has never had supporters enough in our State to make a party worth counting. It is truly gratifying to see how well our State after all the violence of the storm, rights itself like a gallant ship and pursues its accustomed course without the loss of either mast or rudder. *Kentucky is now what she always was*—she is the home of patriotic, Constitution-loving citizens, who are faithful to all their obligations—loyal indeed—loyal to all that should command the allegiance of a patriot.

The various forms of political sentiment in our country have been represented in Louisville by its daily press—the Radical or Jacobin party, by the Louisville Union Press; the Union Conservative by the Journal; the Union Democratic by the Democrat, and the Democratic by the COURIER. Of these the Radical organ is defunct. Like a fish out of water, it could not breathe the pure air of Kentucky. The other three papers thus represent all the political sentiment of the State, and show just how far Kentuckians at this time agree, and how far they differ on the great political issues.

In reflecting upon this subject, we observe that there was perhaps never a period in our political history, when our people and their representative newspapers were so nearly agreed in all the great measures of public policy.

The COURIER, the Democrat, and the Journal, notwithstanding the lively whacks and thrusts they occasionally bestow on each other by way of editorial exercise and amusement, seem to be all advocating substantially the same great principles and measures.

1. We all sustain with equal earnestness the immediate admission of the Southern States to representation in Congress. 2. The abolition of the Freedmen's Bureau. 3. The restoration of the *habeas corpus*. 4. A revenue tariff. If we understand our cotemporaries correctly, each is in favor of reducing the tariff to a revenue standard, excluding the idea of protection (if we are mistaken they can correct us). 5. The maintenance of the Union. 6. The strict observance of the Constitution. 7. The right of each State to regulate its own domestic affairs. 8. A general amnesty as to the affairs of our late civil war and recognition of the political rights of all who were engaged in it. 9 Freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of elections. 10. Support of President Johnson in carrying out the above principles, but no further.

To all of these great measures we understand our neighbors to be pledged, and if so, we give them the hand of fellowship in all such policy. It is true, we don't know whether they are as sound on some of these points as we are—whether, for example, we could trust the Journal on free speech, free press, and free elections—but if they will make good professions we shall not scrutinize matters too closely at present. In fact, the Journal has done so much better than we expected, we are almost ready to excuse it for once calling itself Democratic, as it has lately sustained so well some good democratic principles. If it does not go to coquetting with the Radicals until it gets a portion of their sooty hue, we shall recognize it as a valuable ally in the fight against the Devil's high priest, Thad. Stevens.

Such being the state of the case, all parties in Kentucky that have any respectable dimensions, being in favor of a sound, liberal, constitutional Democratic policy, what are the subjects of our contests and party divisions?

There are, it is true, some differences as to the theory of the Government, and as to minor measures, but our divisions are mostly upon past issues—upon secession and abolition, both of which have run their race and are ended—upon the violent and arbitrary measures adopted during the war, which few are willing to justify now, and upon the propriety of supporting individuals for office who have sided against us in the past four years. The Journal, for example, treasures up its wrath against Senator Powell and Gov. Wickliffe and their friends—why, we cannot see, for those gentlemen are in favor of the measures which the Journal advocates, and they have no dangerous or improper or unstatesman-like ideas to advance. On the contrary, we think Kentucky owes them a debt of gratitude for their patriotic services during the last four years.

On the other hand, we have decided objections to some of the Journal's favorites, and we can never look upon Gov. Bramlette and some of his followers as sound or reliable politicians when they were willing to see the sovereignty of the people overthrown at the ballot-box.

We are thus divided in reference to past issues and living politicians; in addition to which the Journal and Democrat have been fighting each other so often that they naturally fall into pugilistic attitudes whenever they look at each other. We have had a pass or two with the Journal, and have taken a round with the Democrat, which we have finished, mutually dropping the subject as an unprofitable waste of time, when it may become necessary for both to unite in trouncing the Journal if it should ever abandon its present position, to consort with the Radicals, or even insist on making common cause with them in Kentucky by upholding or favoring known Radicals.

It is a subject of congratulation now, since we are able to vote and speak freely in Kentucky, that in our contests at the polls we have less cause than heretofore for any asperity of feeling, and unless the hideous features of the *anti-Republican or Black Republican* party should become prominent, there will be little to disturb the harmony of our citizens. We can do peaceable Democratic voting without fear of Burnside or Burbridge, and we can hold peaceable Democratic conventions without any hindrance by General Gilbert, the Louisville Journal, or the Louisville Democrat; and the distinguished Democrats from other States, who will address our conventions, will not have to mince and chip their words for fear of military arrest.

☞ The Lafayette (Ind.) Journal of the 1st, says a regiment of Illinois troops, from Georgia, passed through the city on the Valley road the previous evening, on their way to Springfield to be mustered out. The behavior of some of the more lawless among them, while at Lafayette, was scandalous. A promiscuous row was kicked up at the Wabash Valley House, in which several of them were roughly handled. One of them had his head badly cut, and another his arm rendered nearly useless by a blow. We are glad to be able to say that the behavior of the troops who have passed through Louisville during the past few months, has been uniformly good.

☞ Ossian Edwards, of Bourbon county, Kentucky, sold, a few days since, his farm, containing about 180 acres, and lying on the Georgetown and Kiger's Station Turnpike, about eight miles from Paris, to Samuel Patterson, for $25,240, being $140 per acre.

Cavilling.

There are some men who call themselves Democrats, to the exclusion of every one else, who want a convention in this State to make a demonstration and nominate a candidate for Clerk of the Court of Appeals at the August election.—[Democrat.

We regret to see language so unfair and unjust in any newspaper professing Democratic principles. It is a repetition of ill-natured expressions, which can only tend to create needless jealousies. It is utterly inapplicable to the Democratic Central Committee, to the COURIER, or to the large mass of the people who approve a convention. They have none of the exclusiveness so unjustly charged by the Democrat. Those who have been insulted and proscribed for their opinions heretofore, but who now demand to be treated with some respect as a political party, will not be conciliated or attracted by such language.

The Democrat may think its course on this subject very judicious and conciliatory; we think it simply factious and mischievous. Look at the facts. There were two conventions in 1864; one Democratic, composed of the friends of Governor Wickliffe, and the other the convention called by Prentice & Co., of the Union Conservative Committee. There was no third party but the Radicals.

Which of these conventions did the Democrat approve, and which do the majority of Kentuckians now approve? The Democratic Convention, at that time, represented a downtrodden and plundered majority of the people, and to-day it represents that majority, together with many thousands more of conservative Democrats, who are now in sympathy with them.

Of that convention the Central Committee is, and has been, the authorized organ, and no subsequent Democratic Convention has been held to appoint another committee, nor could that committee honorably resign until they had convened the Democracy, as they were specifically required to do when appointed. To object to their acting is simply to declare that the Democratic party in Kentucky ought not to act or be recognized as a political power or a political party, but should be content still to hold the position of inferiority in which they had been placed by arbitrary power.

We are willing to be both courteous and cordial to our conservative friends who now go with us in sustaining the Constitution, but to carry our courtesy so far as to surrender our organization, and not have our Central Committee do their duty, because there are no "conservatives" among them to sanctify their acts, is carrying politeness to an extent that is obsequious and degrading. The Democratic Committee has never received any such deference from any other party. They have not even been treated with ordinary civility in reference to the formation of a joint electoral ticket, or in the publication of their address in 1865.

And yet the committee has done nothing unfavorable to Union and co-operation—they invite *all friends of the Constitution* to meet in Convention. The COURIER acts in the same spirit, and to promote co-operation we have abstained from commenting on several very unnecessary and unfriendly articles in the Democrat, remembering that "a soft answer turneth away wrath," and silence is sometimes still more effectual.

Why Brevet Brigadier Baker was Degraded.

[From Washington Correspondence Richmond Times.]

The notorious Government detective, Gen. L. C. Baker, ceases to be a Brigadier General with this day. By the terms of an order from the War Department, his commission was cancelled on the 15th inst., and he is mustered out of "service." It should be borne in mind, however, that the military officers here disclaim Baker's right to recognition as of the military service proper, since he did not receive his title of Brigadier General by reason of meritorious conduct in the field, nor on account of service in the army of the U. S. His "promotion" to a brigadiership was the work of Mr. Stanton, upon importunities of Baker, who asked the distinction as a sort of healthy covering to hide his disreputable conduct while acting in the capacity of chief thief-catcher, etc., for the Government. This detective has had his day; now the trouble will commence, for he can no longer, at his own bidding, bring to his aid the strong arm of the Government to protect him from the vengeance of outraged citizens who have been sufferers in person and property from the unconstitutional and utterly illegal acts of this man.

Baker had become so impudent and felt so entirely secure from the reach of all men, save the Secretary of War, that he actually applied to play the detective upon the President and his household some weeks ago. There is scarcely a doubt, however, that this last specimen of indecency and wonderful impudence was encouraged, if not suggested, by some of the President's "radical friends." The "Great Detective" made an utter failure of his espionage upon the Executive Mansion, for it was somehow discovered by Mr. Johnson, who sent a messenger to bring Baker immediately into his presence. The detective dropped every other consideration, and repaired with all haste to the White House, totally at fault as to the purpose of this summons from the President. His name being announced, the President directed that he be at once admitted, notwithstanding the presence of several gentlemen then engaged with Mr. Johnson. The latter most unceremoniously charged Baker with his villainous espionage, and informed him that if he again heard of his presence in or prowling about the White House, or if he permitted any of his creatures to sneak around the premises, the "Great Detective" should himself lodge in some of the dingy cells in the Old Capitol, where so many had been incarcerated upon the simple order of Baker himself, without warrant, or the semblance of law or justice.

The "Great Detective" was amazed at what he heard, and remained speechless while the President scored him. Upon the President's command, "Go, sir," Baker hastily moved towards the door; but before he quite arrived there Mr. Johnson added: "Hold one moment, sir. I desire that you now go to the Secretary of War and tell him every word I have said to you; and (shaking his finger at him) don't you ever let me see you here again."

The "Great Detective" left instanter, and has obeyed the last injunction of the President most religiously.

Bring Back the Stolen Church Plate.

Rev. C. C. Pinckney, of Charleston, S. C., makes the following public appeal for the restoration of the plate of his Church that was stolen at the time of the sacking and burning of Columbia, February, 1865:

CHARLESTON, January 4, 1866.

"Among the calamities which have befallen many of our churches in the past year, is the entire or partial loss of our church plate. My own Church (Grace Church) had a full and handsome communion service, which was sent to Columbia for safety. It was lost in the sacking of that city by Sherman's army on the 18th of February last. The communion plate of St. Michael's, Charleston, the gift of Queen Anne, and that of Trinity Church, Columbia, was all stolen, or destroyed in the fire on that occasion.

"It has occurred to me that you might do something to aid us in the recovery of some at least, of these sacred vessels endeared to us by use and by so many religious associations. They have probably been offered for sale in the larger cities of the North. They may have fallen into the hands of some who are willing to restore them on just terms, to their rightful owners. Each piece of plate of my church was distinctly marked 'Grace Church Charleston.' The others were, I presume, in a like manner engraved with the names of their churches.

"The record-book of St Michael's Church, more than one hundred years old, was carried off. It was seen in the hands of parties going North from Charleston. It is a very valuable book. The members of the church will be under obligation to you, if you assist them to recover it.

Yours, respectfully,
C. C. PINCKNEY."

Debts of the Loyal States.

The loyal States, with the exception of Kansas, Iowa and Michigan, and the three Pacific States, have furnished to Mr. Blaine, of Maine, Chairman of the Select Committee on the War Debt of the Loyal States, the amounts expended by them severally in supporting the late war. The footings in most cases include the amounts expended by counties, cities and towns, and the aggregate in round numbers are as follows:

Maine, $12,600,000; New Hampshire, $13,000,000; Vermont, $8,700,000; Massachusetts, $24,100,000 (State alone without including the town debt); Rhode Island, $6,500,000; Connecticut, $17,600,000; New York, $111,000,000; New Jersey, $26,700,000; Pennsylvania, $54,000,000; Delaware, $1,100,000; Maryland, $8,600,000; West Virginia, $2,000,000; Ohio, $65,000,000; Indiana, $22,600,000; Illinois, (estimated) $20,000,000; Wisconsin, $12,000,000; Minnesota, $2,500,000; Missouri, $9,500,000; Kentucky, $1,600,000, (by the State alone, not including counties or towns.)

ARKANSAS.

Report of Major General Sherman upon the Condition of Affairs in that Department—Schemes for the Improvement of the State and Population.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The following message was sent to the Senate to-day by President Johnson:

To the Senate of the United States:

In answer to the resolution of the Senate, of the 30th ult., requesting the President, if not incompatible with the public interests, to communicate to the Senate a copy of the late report of Major General Sherman upon the condition of the State in his department, in which he has lately made a tour of inspection, I transmit herewith a copy of a communication, dated December 22d, 1865, addressed to the headquarters of the army, by Major General Sherman, commanding the Military Division of the Mississippi.

ANDREW JOHNSON.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1866.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI, ST. LOUIS, MO., Dec. 22, 1865.

General J. A. Rawlins, Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have just returned from a partial inspection of the Department of Arkansas. It was my purpose to have extended my visit up to Fort Smith, but the Arkansas river was too low, and I limited it to Little Rock. The route usually traveled remains substantially as it was during the war, by way of White river to Duval's Bluff, and thence forty-eight miles of railroad to Little Rock.

The Arkansas river is at all seasons too precarious to be relied on, but the White river, lying in the alluvion of the Mississippi, retains at all seasons of the year, a depth of water of three and a half feet as far up as Duval's Bluffs. The railroad hence to Little Rock is in good enough condition for all present purposes, and has been restored to the possession of the company who built it, and is operated to the satisfaction of General Reynolds and his Chief Quartermaster, Colonel Noble.

It would contribute much to our military convenience, as well as to the general interests of the State of Arkansas, if the railroad could be finished to Memphis. I saw Mr. N. C. Brinkley, of Memphis, President of the railroad company, who seemed very anxious to finish it, but said the company had lost so much by the war that, unless he could receive help from the Government, he feared he could not undertake it.

The road was once in operation from Memphis to St. Francis river, with a fine bridge completed over that stream, and at the time the Federal army occupied Memphis in 1862, he had a thousand tons of railroad iron on hand, ready to be applied on the unfinished section between Madison and Duvall's Bluff, but this iron was taken by us and carried away to Columbus, Ky., and used in repairs on the Mobile and Ohio railroad, then in our military possession from Columbus to Corinth. The costly bridge over the St. Francis was burned by the rebel General Hindman.

Mr. Brinkley agreed, if we could help him, to grade the road from Madison to Duvall's Bluff, and to cut in the woods along the line the necessary number of ties; he would undertake to purchase on credit the necessary quantity of iron, and to construct the bridges necessary to make a continuous railroad from Memphis to Little Rock.

General Reynolds has now at Helena three colored regiments, at Pine Bluff one, and at Little Rock another. He could easily apply the labor of two or more of these regiments to the grading of the road and getting out the ties, and Mr. Brinkley agrees to pay for this labor in land, belonging to the company, lying adjacent to the road. General Reynolds, commanding the department, and Sprague, Commissioner of Freedmen in Arkansas, approve heartily of this plan, and I think we are sufficiently interested in this road to encourage it by all means.

Accordingly I ask that unless it be proposed to muster out the colored regiments, that the War Department will sanction the plan so far as to authorize General Reynolds to order the execution of the work during the present winter and spring months. I found all the troops in Arkansas in good condition and well commanded, General Reynolds being admirably qualified and adapted to his command.

The negroes in Arkansas can all find profitable and lucrative employment, and are protected in all their rights and property by the civil authorities. I met no one citizen or soldier who questioned or doubted that their freedom was as well assured in Arkansas as in Ohio.

Governor Murphy told me that negroes could acquire title to real estate or any kind of property, and that the courts, both Federal and State, could and would protect them. There was a universal expression of confidence in the present condition of affairs, except on the part of some of the former rebels, who thought the present test oath prescribed for them too stringent and severe.

A convention of them convened, I know not how, was in session at Little Rock when I was there. A committee from it waited on Gen. Reynolds and myself, inviting us to attend. We agreed to go, provided no debate or proceedings were in progress during our visit. On our entrance to the hall the president addressed us in language as loyal and earnest as possible, and asked our advice. I responded and gave them the best advice I knew how, amounting substantially as follows:

That political matters, since the conclusion of hostilities, had progressed and were still progressing as fast as they could expect. That I doubted if any action on their part, as a convention of the State, would be regarded as the act of Arkansas, but that any respectful representation of facts from them, in their individual capacities, in the nature of a petition to General Reynolds, to President Johnson, or the national Congress, would doubtless receive every possible consideration.

At the same time I called their attention to the poverty of their country, and how much better it would be for them to give their personal attention each to their own affairs, rather than bother themselves with general matters of politics. After leaving Little Rock I learned that the Convention had adjourned, so that I hope things there will remain as quiet as before.

Indeed, so far as my observation goes, there is perfect satisfaction felt by all classes of the people except on the part of a very few who are looking to future combinations, involving the local and unimportant State affairs.

I found everywhere in the South a large number of our officers and soldiers looking out for land and employment, and I doubt not that during the next year all the land which is cleared will be under cultivation, a large part of it under the direction of energetic young men, and that all branches of business in Arkansas will be stimulated by the presence of a class of men which has not heretofore resided in that State.

Single individuals now travel unarmed from one part of the State to another, and General Reynolds is rarely called upon to afford military protection to any one, white or black.

I am, with respect, your ob't serv't,
W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General Commanding.

Agriculture in the Southern States—Important Circular.

The Commissioner of Agriculture has just issued the following circular letter for Southern circulation:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 1866.

SIR: During the past two years the Department of Agriculture has established throughout the Northern and Pacific States and Territories a regular correspondent for each county, with two assistants, whom he should select. To the principal correspondents, during the crop season, circulars are sent containing questions relative to the crops—as to how the amount sown or planted compares with the previous year, or with some other stated year, as the necessity of the case may require; the injury to the crops, and from what cause; the amount harvested, etc.

In the Spring, Summer and Fall, circulars are issued monthly, and in the Winter bi-monthly, the latter containing inquiries of the yield per acre, and the price, the number of farm stock, etc.

The general designs and duties pertaining to this Department are to acquire and diffuse among the people of the United States useful information on subjects connected with agriculture, in the most general and comprehensive sense of that term; and to procure, propogate, and distribute among the people new and valuable seeds and plants.

To the principal correspondent (as a recognition for this gratuitous labor) is sent a portion of such seeds, plants and reports, that, through him and his assistants, they may become as widely diffused among the people as possible, and the Department, in return, be placed in the possession of statistical and other information so essential to the prosperity of the agricultural interests of the whole country.

I am very desirous of obtaining such information of the agriculture of the Southern States, and for this purpose, I urgently request you to forward me the name of some person who would take an interest in collecting the information sought after, to be the principal correspondent, and his post-office address.

BILLIARD MATCH.—A billiard match came off at Moore's billiard saloon in this city last night, between Charley Fink, of Louisville, and John Blinn, of this city. The game was caroms, 1,000 points up, and was won by Fink by forty-two points. The average of the runs made was nine points—the largest run eighty-four points, being made by Blinn.—[N. A. Ledger, 7th.

☞ Servants in England seem to have turned the tables on masters and mistresses. In the Times supplement lately a housemaid advertising for a place announces that "Irish and Scotch families are objected to." What a change, says the Pall Mall Gazette, since the time (not so very long ago) when, in the advertisements for servants, it used frequently to be stated that "no Irish need apply!"

GOSSIP FOR THE LADIES.

Latest Paris, London, and N. York Fashions—Rich and Elegant Fashionable Novelties—The Fashions for February.

The latest New York fashionable sensation is the simulated slipper, which has been the Parisian sensation for at least a month. The following is a description of the new novelty:

"It is a gaiter, made after the old prunella pattern; but, instead of prunella, it is woven silk—stocking pattern—and is beautifully worked in white and colored floss. The foxes of the gaiter is white kid, with real lace rosettes, with silver aigrettes in the center, and high Louis XIV. heels. It is laced up at the side; otherwise it looks like a beautifully fitting kid slipper and silk stocking. The advantage of the simulated over the real article is, that beneath the imitation stocking is satin jean, rose-colored, but very strong withal, and capable of bearing a strain of lacing that would compress any foot, however unshapely, into its own beautiful proportions."

The latest London fashion gossip chronicles an attempt to escape from the inconvenience, and yet retain the effect of trailing skirts, which is accomplished by the American style of looping up the dress, only this looks awkward over narrow loops and with strain. The following are descriptions of London styles:

"For morning out-door toilets there is apparently but one style. Either the patent velvet, black and white striped silk, or linsey dress with paletot to match, and a colored petticoat, with a box-pleated flounce round the edge, are, we may say, universally worn. The character of the box-pleat has changed of late—instead of being narrow and close together, each pleat now measures three inches across, and in the interval between every box-pleat there is an ornament—either a button, or a small ball or a tassel.

"With afternoon toilets it is different; there is a great variety in the style, but none in the color, for in Paris fashion restricts choice, and only two colors take the place of the blue, violet, green, and *cuir*, which a few months ago were admissible. One of these two colors is auburn, or, as the French term it, *ajacou*, and the other is, if we may so express it, garnet, for it is more closely resembles the rich shade of those precious stones than anything else. These are both dark colors, but rich in tone, and occasionally the tunic that is worn over them is light and of a different material. Thus, for a dinner toilet, a garnet satin dress, with a pearl-gray terry tunic over it, is a style now made in Paris. Cluny lace, ornamented with either gold or white bugle beads, is still very fashionable for trimming. When long sleeves are worn they are of the coat shape, not plain, but ornamented with *chevrons*, or a ladder of either velvet or gimp, from the cuff to the elbow.

"The Pamela bonnet has found its way to London, and already been adopted by a small minority. It is as yet very conspicuous, resembling rather a fanciful head-dress than a bonnet. Those we have seen have two upright feathers at the side. Feathers are now worn small, and arranged to stand upright rather than droop and curl gracefully over what they are intended to adorn.

"Small curls at the top of the forehead are now considered necessary to the arrangement of the front hair, as a *chignon* is to the back. Few ladies will submit to have their locks cropped in front for this fleeting fashion, so they have recourse to what may be called false fronts. Flowers are but little worn now as head-dresses; and the bandelets are being replaced by these small frizzed curls. Butterflies, sequins, jet and silver ornaments, delicate silver and gold flowerets, gold cord, gold braid and tiny humming-birds are arranged carelessly among the short frizzed curls. The hair, although curled, is worn close to the head, and, if bracelets are desired, they are made of either shaded velvet leaves, mounted on flat gold braid, or of moss mixed with coral."

The following fashions for February are reported in New York from Paris:

Dress silks will be as long and as wide at the bottom as heretofore, notwithstanding the prediction that short and narrow ones would be in favor. Skirts will be but little trimmed, and often not at all. The *Gabrielle* style will continue popular for ordinary wear. A few double skirts have made their appearance, but there is no probability that they will become general. The fronts of dresses will have few if any pleats, but all skirts will be very much gored. Short waists will be worn the rest of the winter, and belts of modern width always with them. Basques, like the skirt, fitting close to the figure, will be again popular as the spring approaches, and when these are now worn a belt is fastened over them. Sleeves will be trimmed from the wrist to the shoulder, sometimes made to wind around the arm in a spiral column.

In bonnets, the newest style is the Pamela, which has just made its appearance in Paris. Imagine a saucer, slightly bent down at the sides, and with strings fastened to three sides, and some idea may be gathered of these strangest of all small bonnets. They are made of drawn black velvet, and at the top of the bonnet, or rather the saucer, a black velvet bow is placed, the long end of which falls at the side; in the inside there is a very small wreath of rose-buds, and a similar wreath is repeated at the back. Be it understood there is neither curtain or cap to these small bonnets; and although they are infinitesimal head-gear for out-of-door wear, they are vastly coquettish with pretty faces under them.

Linen collars and sleeves are worn ornamented with lace or embroidery, either in satin stitch or point russe; which somewhat resembles the cat stitch. This point russe is done in colored cotton, or something even in fine zephyr. Sleeves are made with deep wristbands.

Parisian fashionable gossip contains the following items relative to ladies' boots and shoes:

"Now that short skirts are coming into vogue, it is curious to observe what coquettish boots and shoes are making their appearance. For dancing, the Louis XV. boots, made of *poult de soie* to match the dress in color, or a shoe with a sham silk stocking attached, and elastic sides, are fashionable; bows made of either *guipure* or blonde are added. For home wear, ladies patronize the mule slipper, made of *gros de Toros*, and embroidered by hand in silk, and lined with satin to match the embroidery. The design for this embroidery is sometimes a bouquet, sometimes a large butterfly, and occasionally a simulated buckle; a cord of the same color, finished off with tassels, terminates the decorations of the mule slipper. Others still more costly are made of white velvet, bound with cerise satin, with cerise cords and tassels in front. Gold is lavished in profusion, even on ladies' slippers. For wearing with velvet dresses trimmed with gold, it is now usual to see boots to match; patent or fancy velvet is used for the purpose, because it is stronger and wears better than silk velvet, and a narrow fur bracelet is added to the top of the boot. For outdoor wear the unglazed black kid boots, with as little ornament as possible, are considered the most ladylike as well as the most useful, especially for those who take much walking exercise."

The Confederates in Mexico.

The Mexican Times, printed in the city of Mexico, November 11th, has an article on the Confederates who sought a shelter in Mexico. It says:

In like manner did the Irish patriots, and Kossuth and his companions fly to the United States. They were received with open arms. They were not only feted and dined everywhere with great hospitality, but much material aid was given them. The United States Government even sent a ship of war to take Kossuth and his companions to New York, making them the nation's guests. To this the Emperor of Austria made no formal protest—entered no complaint whatever. Just so soon as His Majesty the Emperor Maximilian found exiled Confederates in his dominions, he received them kindly. He received them homeless, houseless, penniless, and extended to them the same hospitiality which the Government of the United States had ever extended to all political exiles.

These gentlemen, together with Magruder, Reynolds, Shelby, Hindman, Wilcox, Bee, Hardeman, Slaughter, Watkins, Ledbetter, Mordecai, Blake, McLane, Perry, Kimmel, Slayback, Blackwell, Kephart, Collins, Yowell, Hall, Bouldin, Broadwell, Cage, Reid, Bartlett, Terry, Ward, Woods, Jones, Taylor, Fell, Roberts, Brown, Oladowsky, Edwards, Laurence, Moore, Crowther, Cundiff, Tisdell, Thralkill, Mitchell, O'Bannon, Flournoy, Monroe, Donahoe, Weston, Armistead, Rice, Elliot, Ridley, Burt, and a host of other brave, true and noble souls, are now residents of Mexico.

In our daily walks we often meet them. Although chastened by adversity and saddened by the recollection of the past; although suffering much mental agony for a dear absent wife, or a tender daughter, or a dear absent friend, still, with stout hearts, they are "buffetting the waves of misfortune."

Many who were wealthy are engaged in the humblest avocations. They are laboring for their daily bread. This bread to them is sweet, for it is earned by the sweat of their own faces, and in an atmosphere congenial to the lungs of exiles.

These exiles have sent for their wives and their little ones, and now are compelled, many of them in their old age, to begin life anew. A kind Providence blessed the Puritans and the Huguenots. He will not forsake the unfortunate Confederates, who, like them, have been driven from the graves of their sires, and who now seek new homes in the land of the stranger.

We are glad to see, and to say, that among the Confederates who are now in Mexico, there are no secret juntas conspiring against the land of their birth—no loud denunciations against Fatherland.

☞ It is now thought that not more than thirty lives were lost by the recent explosion of the Missouri. [illegible]

The Plea of Raphael Semmes, Late Commander of the Alabama.

Some days ago the Washington dispatches announced that Raphael Semmes had forwarded President Johnson a protest against his further imprisonment. The following is a copy of the document in full:

To His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States:

SIR: Being satisfied that you are anxious to arrive at a correct decision in my case—one that shall accord, at the same time, with the honor and dignity of the United States, and with justice to myself—I venture to address you the following brief exposition of the law and the facts of the case.

On the 26th day of April, 1865, the following military convention was entered into at Greensboro, N. C., between Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, commanding the Confederate States Army in North Carolina, and Major General W. T. Sherman, commanding the United States Army in the same State, viz:

1. All acts of war on the part of the troops under Gen. Johnston's command to cease from this date.

2. All arms and public property to be deposited at Greensboro, and delivered to an ordnance officer of the United States Army.

3. Rolls of all the officers and men to be made in duplicate, one copy to be retained by the commander of the troops, and the other to be given to an officer to be designated by Gen. Sherman. Each officer and man to give his individual obligation, in writing, not to take up arms against the Government of the United States until properly released from this obligation.

4. The side-arms of officers, and their private horses and baggage to be retained by them.

5. This being done all the officers and men will be permitted to return to their homes, not to be disturbed by the United States authorities so long as they observe their obligation and the laws in force where they may reside.

(Signed) W. T. SHERMAN,
Major General.
Com'ing U. S. Forces in North Carolina.
(Signed) JOS. E. JOHNSTON,
General.
Com'ing C. S. Forces in North Carolina.

Here, Mr. President, was a solemn military convention entered into by two Generals, who had opposing armies in the field, in which convention the one and the other General stipulated for certain terms; Gen. Johnston agreeing to lay down his arms and disband his forces, and Gen. Sherman agreeing, in consideration thereof, that the forces thus disbanded shall proceed to their homes, and there remain undisturbed by the United States authorities. I beg you to observe the use of the word "undisturbed," one of the most comprehensive words in our language. I pray you also to remark the formalities with which this convention was drawn. We were treated as officers commanding armies, representing of course, if not a *de jure*, at least a *de facto* government. Our proper military titles were acknowledged. I was myself styled and treated in the muster-rolls, and other papers drawn up by both parties, a Brigadier General and a Rear Admiral. The honors of war usual upon surrenders upon terms, were accorded to us, in our being permitted to retain our side-arms, private horses and baggage. In short, the future historian, upon reading this convention, will be unable to distinguish it in any particular from other similar papers agreed upon by armies of recognized governments. At the date of and some weeks prior to the ratification of this convention, I commanded a brigade of artillery, forming a part of the army of General Johnston. I was, of course, included in the terms of the convention. I complied with those terms, under orders received from General Johnston, by turning over my arms to the proper officer and disbanding my forces. The convention was approved by the Government of the United States. Your Excellency may recollect that the first convention entered into between General Johnston and General Sherman, which provided, among other things, for the return of the Southern States to their functions under the Constitution of the United States, was disapproved by the Government, on the ground that General Sherman, in undertaking to treat of political matters, had transcended his authority. The armistice which had been declared between the two armies was dissolved, and hostilities were renewed. A few days afterward, however, new negotiations were commenced, and the convention with which we have to do, was the second convention entered into by those Generals; and which was a substantial readoption of the military portion of the first convention. It was this latter convention which was formally approved, both by General Grant, the Commander-in-Chief, under whose orders General Sherman acted, and by the Executive at Washington.

Confiding in the good faith of the Government, pledged in a solemn treaty as above stated, I returned to my home in Alabama, and remained there for the space of seven months, engaging in civil pursuits as a means of livelihood for my dependent family, and yielding a ready obedience to the laws. I had, in fact, become an officer of the law, having established myself as an attorney. It would have been easy for me, at any time within these seven months, to pass out of the country, if I had had any doubt about the binding obligation of the Greensboro' Convention, or of the good faith of the Government. But I had no doubt on either point, nor have I any doubt yet, as I feel quite sure that when you shall have informed yourself of all the facts of the case, you will come to the conclusion that my arrest was entirely without warrant, and order my discharge. While thus remaining quietly at home, in the belief that I was "not to be disturbed by the United States authorities," I was, on the 15th day of December, 1865, in the night time, arrested by a Lieutenant and two Sergeants of the marine corps, under an order signed by the Secretary of the Navy, and placed under guard; a file of soldiers in the meantime surrounding my house. I was informed by the officer making the arrest that I was to proceed to Washington in his custody, there to answer to a charge, a copy of which he handed me. This charge, and the protest which I filed the next day with the Commanding-General of the Department of Alabama, against my arrest, your Excellency has already seen. The question for you then to decide, Mr. President, is the legality of this arrest. Can I, in violation of the terms of the military convention already referred to, and under which I laid down my arms, be held to answer for any act of war committed anterior to the date of that convention? I respectfully submit that I cannot be so held, either during the continuance of the war (and the political power has not yet proclaimed the war ended) or after the war shall have been brought to a close by proclamation, and the restoration of the writ of *habeas corpus*, without a flagrant violation of faith on the part of the United States. If it be admitted that I might be tried for any act *dehors* the war, and having no connection with it, as for instance, for a forgery, it is quite clear that I cannot be arrested or arraigned for any act manifestly of war, and acknowledged as such, (as the act for instance for which I was arrested,) whether such act be in consonance with the laws of war or in violation thereof; and this for the simple reason that the military convention was a *condonation* and an *oblivion* of all precedent acts of war, of what nature soever those acts might be. I am "not to be disturbed" says the military convention. Disturbed for what? Why, manifestly, for any act of war theretofore committed against the United States. This is the only common sense view of the case; and if the convention did not mean this it could mean nothing; and I laid down my arms, not upon terms, as I had supposed, but without terms. If I was still at the mercy of the conqueror, and my arrest asserts as much, I was in the condition of one who had surrendered *unconditionally*; but it has been seen that I did not surrender unconditionally, but upon terms—terms engrafted upon a treaty ratified and approved by the conqueror's Government. Nor is it consistent with good faith, to qualify or restrain those terms, so as to make them inapplicable to acts of war that may be claimed to have been in violation of the laws of war; for this would be to refine away all the protection which has been thrown around me by treaty, and put me in the power of the opposite contracting party, who might put his own construction upon the laws of war. This very attempt, Mr. President, has been made in the case before you. I claim to have escaped, after my ship had been sunk from under me in the engagement off Cherbourg, and I had been precipitated into the water, the enemy not having taken possession of me, according to the laws and usages of war, as your Excellency may read in almost every page of naval history, the Secretary of the Navy claiming the contrary. The true, and the only just and fair criterion is, was the act for which the arrest was made an act of war? If so, there is an end of the question, and I must be discharged, for, as before remarked, the convention, if it is anything, is an oblivion to all acts of war of whatever nature.

But it may be said that, although I cannot be tried by a military tribunal during the war, I may yet be tried by a civil tribunal after the war. Let us try this question also. I was, undoubtedly, amenable to the civil tribunals of the country, as well after as before the convention, for any offense of a purely civil nature, not founded on an act of war—to instance, as before, the crime of forgery. If I had committed a forgery in North Carolina, I could not, upon arraignment, plead the military convention in bar of trial. Why not? Because that convention had reference only to acts of war. I was treated with in my capacity of a soldier and a seaman. But, does it follow that I may be tried for treason? And if not, why not? The Attorney General tells you that treason is a civil offense, and in his opinion triable exclusively by the civil courts, and he hopes you will give him plenty of occupation in trying (?) many whom the sword has spared." (See his letter to you of the [illegible] of January, 1866.) But does not the [illegible] officer forget that treason is made up of acts of war; and is it not apparent that you cannot try me for acts of war? The Constitution of the United States, which the Attorney General says he loves even better than blood, declares, in words, that treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort—all of which adherence, giving of aid and comfort, &c., are equally acts of war. There is no constructive treason in this country. Thus I can neither be tried by a military tribunal during the war, nor a civil tribunal after the war, for any act of war, or for treason which consists only of acts of war.

But it may further be said that this convention, of which I am claiming the protection, is not a continuing convention, and will expire with the war, when, as Mr. Speed thinks, you may hand me over to the civil tribunals. Whence can such a conclusion be drawn? Not from the terms of the convention, for these contradict the conclusion; not by implication merely, but *in totidem verbis*. The terms are "not to be disturbed, so long as they shall observe their obligation and the laws in force where they may reside." A misuse of terms, Mr. President, sometimes misleads very clever minds. And I presume it is by a misuse of terms that the Attorney General has fallen into this error. (See his letter to your Excellency before referred to.) That officer, while he admits that *parole* protects the party paroled from trial during war, yet contends that it does not protect him from trial by a civil tribunal, for treason, after the war. As I have shown that treason can only consist of acts of war, and that the military convention is an oblivion of all acts of war, the Attorney General, when he says that a paroled party may be tried for treason at the end of the war, (the parole being no longer a protection to him,) must mean that the parole will have died with the war. This is entirely true of a *mere parole*, for a parole is only a promise, on the part of a prisoner of war, that if released from imprisonment, he will not take up arms again unless he is exchanged. This parole is as frequently given by prisoners of war, who have surrendered unconditionally, as by those who have surrendered upon terms. There cannot be any parole, then, without a prisoner of war, and the status of prisoner of war ceasing, the parole ceases—for *cessante ratione, cessat et ipsa lex*. Thus far the Attorney General is quite logical, but by confounding in his mind the certificates given to the officers and men of Gen. Johnston's army, stating the terms of the Greensboro' Convention, and guaranteeing those officers and men against molestation, in accordance with those terms, with paroles, it is easy to see how the mistake I am exposing can have been made. But the convention made between Gen. Johnston and Gen. Sherman was not a mere releasing of prisoners on parole; nor, indeed, had it anything to do with prisoners, for none of the officers and men of Gen. Johnston's army *ever were prisoners*, as may be seen at a glance by an inspection of the terms of the convention. It was a treaty between commanding generals in the field, in which the word parole is not once used, or could be used with propriety; a treaty in which mutual stipulations are made, one in consideration of another, and there is no limit as to time set to this treaty. On the contrary, it was expressly stated that the guarantees contained in it were to continue and be in force so long as the parties to whom the guarantees were given should perform their part of the treaty stipulations. It was made not in contemplation of a continuation of the war, but with a view to put an end to the war, and the guarantees were demanded by us as *peace guarantees*. It did, in effect, put an end to the war and pacify the whole country, Gen. Taylor in Alabama and Mississippi, and Gen. Buckner and others in Texas, following the lead of Gen. Johnston. Are we to be told now by an Attorney General of the United States that the moment the object of the convention, to-wit, the restoration of peace, was accomplished, the convention itself became a nullity, its terms powerless to protect us, and that Gen. Johnston's army surrendered, in fact, without any terms whatever? You cannot sustain such an opinion, Mr. President. It will shock the common sense and love of fair play of the American people. But to show still further that it was the intention of the parties that this should be a continuing convention, the words used were "not to be disturbed by the United States authorities," these words being coextensive with the whole power of the Government. We were not only "not to be disturbed" by Gen. Sherman, or any other military commander or authority, but by any authority whatever, civil or military. Nor will it do to say that Gen. Sherman, being merely a military man, had no authority to speak for the civil branch of the Government, for his action, as we have seen, was approved by the administration at Washington.

One more remark, Mr. President, and I will forbear to trespass further on your time and patience. The act of war for which I was arrested was well known to the department of the Government making the arrest ten months before the convention was entered into at Greensboro. It was well known to the same department that about the middle of February, 1865, I was assigned to the command of the James river squadron, near Richmond, with the rank of Rear Admiral; being thus promoted and employed by my Government after the alleged illegal escape off Cherbourg. If the Government then entertained the design which it has since developed, of arresting and trying me for this alleged breach of the laws of war, was it not its duty, both to itself and me, to have made me an exception to any military terms it might have been disposed to grant to our armies? I put it to you, Mr. President, as a man and a magistrate, to say, and I will rest my case on your answer, whether it was consistent with honor and fair dealing for this Government first to entrap me by means of a military convention, and then, having me in its power, to arrest me and declare that convention null and void, for the course recommended to you by Mr. Speed comes to this—nothing more, nothing less.

I have thus laid before you, tediously, I fear, and yet as concisely as was consistent with clearness, the grounds upon which I claim at your hands, who are the guardian of the honor of a great nation, my discharge from arrest and imprisonment. I have spoken freely and frankly, as it became an American citizen to speak to the Chief Magistrate of the American republic. We live in times of high party excitement, when men, unfortunately, are but too prone to take counsel of their passions; but passions die, and men die with them, and after death comes history. In the future, Mr. President, *when America shall have a history*, my record and that of the gallant Southern people will be engrafted upon and become a part of your history, the pages of which you are now acting; and the prayer of this petition is, that you will not permit the honor of the American name to be tarnished by a perfidy on those pages. In this paper I have stood strictly upon legal defenses; but should those barriers be beaten down, conscious of the rectitude of my conduct throughout a chequered and eventful career, when the commerce of half a world was at my mercy, and when the passions of men North and South were tossed into a whirlwind by the current events of the most bloody and terrific war that the human race had ever seen, I shall hope to justify and defend myself against any and all charges affecting the honor and reputation of a man and a soldier. Whatever else may be said of me, I have, at least, brought no discredit upon the American name and character.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,
RAPHAEL SEMMES.
WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 15, 1866.

LOVE VS. MONEY—A RUNAWAY WIFE IS PURSUED FROM CINCINNATI TO MEMPHIS AND CAUGHT.—On Thursday last a young man from this city arrived in Memphis in pursuit of his wife, who, it appears, had abandoned his "bed and board," and fled with some river man to the city on the First Chickasaw Bluff, taking with her $700, which grieved her husband more to part with than his faithless spouse.

The young man gave his name as George English, and awoke the sympathy of as many people there as did Shylock when he bemoaned the loss of his daughter and his ducats. The bereaved Benedict watched the streets, hotels and theater with lynx eyes, and at last espied the faithless one leaning lovingly on the arm of the gay and jocund son of Neptune, who, strange to relate, did not bethink him of using his trident on the infuriated husband as he rushed frantically up Main street to seize him by the throat. He only, in fact, bethought him of his legs, which he used to such advantage as placed several squares between him and the man he had wronged.

Meantime Madam stormed, scratched, bit and threatened, but the $700 were at stake, and she must go to prison or disgorge. That was the ultimatum; and finding no help for it, she was obliged to go to her boarding-house, and draw from between the bed-ticks, where it was reposing in crispy coziness, the wallet containing those comfortable $700. The wrath of the injured husband subsided the moment his hand clutched the package, and smiling sardonically, he politely bade the lady a very good day, and wished her much joy in her new-found love. The foolish wife is said to be quite good-looking, and hails from Cleveland, Ohio, where her friends and relations reside.—[Cin. Commercial.

☞ The Journal publishes the following extract from a letter received by its editor from J. T. Hart, the great sculptor, dated at Florence, Jan. 8, 1866:

My statue for the Louisville Court House will be completed in about three months. It is magnificent marble, and by far my best statue of Henry Clay.

I am now about to commence in marble my life-size group, called "Beauty's Triumph." It receives unqualified praise from almost every one who sees it—artists, connoisseurs, and all. Some go so far as to say that there is no nude statue in sculpture, ancient or modern, so beautiful as the woman.

It hardly becomes me to repeat this much, but it is to an old friend I write, whose spirit has elsewhere enkindled immortal embodiments of [illegible]

WEEKLY CORIUER.

WEDNESDAY....FEBRUARY 14, 1866.

The Kentucky Democratic State Convention

WILL MEET IN LOUISVILLE

TUESDAY, MAY 1, '66

All strict supporters of the Constitution are invited to participate in sending delegates.

By order of the Democratic State Central Committee. jan30 d&wtf

REMOVAL.

The COURIER office has been removed to No. 109, Jefferson street, (north side) between Third and Fourth streets, in the building lately occupied by the Union Press. Counting room on ground floor—Editorial room, front room in second story.

The Clerkship of the Court of Appeals.

The Louisville Democrat has placed the name of R. R. Bolling at the head of its columns as its candidate for this important and lucrative office. In view of the fact that there are five or six other gentlemen of the Democratic party who are candidates for the position who have quite as good claims to the office as Mr. Bolling, and the fact that a convention has been called to which all these claims will be submitted, this seems to us a very extraordinary procedure. The placing of Mr. Bolling's name at the head of its columns, at the same time that it is opposing the assembling of a State Convention to make a nomination, looks very much like the Democrat wished to compel the party to accept the candidate of its choice, and that it desires to defeat the expression of the popular will. Certainly nothing could be fairer or more unobjectionable as an abstract proposition, than the nomination of a candidate by a convention of the people fairly constituted. The argument that a convention will divide and distract the party is a very feeble one, when we remember that if no convention is held there will be from three to six Democratic candidates in the field, each organizing a party of his own and exciting and exasperating his friends against his rivals. It is very clear to our mind that a scrub sweepstakes race would prove more injurious to our party than all we could possibly lose by the defection of men whose political principles are not sufficiently definite to permit them to go into a Democratic Convention, or to rally to the support of a banner which had the word "Democratic" nestling among its folds.

How do those who maintain that the Conservatives will not support a candidate nominated by a Democratic Convention, know that they will support a candidate nominated by the Democrat and the Journal? Is there any evidence on this point? Is the voice of the Louisville Democrat more potent to produce harmony in our ranks than that of assembled representatives of the party from every quarter of the State? We are not prepared to admit it. The Democracy have not invested that or any other paper with authority to speak for them in this decided and imperative tone, nor will they be controlled in their action by such proceedings.

It seems to us that the Democrat has placed itself in an unfortunate position, both for itself and for the party. If a convention meets—which we tell the Democrat now, will most assuredly be the case—and nominates another candidate, which is more than probable, it will either be compelled to hand down the name it now so ostentatiously parades, or join its fortunes with those who will be arrayed against the party. Either alternative, we presume, would be excessively disagreeable; but one or the other it will be forced to adopt. Already quite a number of counties have appointed their delegates to the convention, and the others will do it before the first of May. No controversies in regard to the legitimacy of the committee which called the convention, or its authority to act, will be permitted to prevent the assembling of the convention, and it will therefore be held. There is no good and sufficient reason why it should not meet, and neither the temporizing fears of the timid, or the tricks of selfish and interested parties, will be able to prevent the Democracy from speaking out its will in such formal and authoritive terms as will not be misunderstood.

Desperately Hard Run.

Our neighbors of the Journal were jocosely notified by the COURIER that they must take a back seat and confess their sins if they attempt to break into the Democratic camp.

Out of this remark, strictly personal to the Journal, they manufacture the following prodigious appeal to the prejudices of their readers. Such appeals and denunciations exhibit only the weakness of the cause that has to be thus propped up, and the violence of its supporters:

We are unable to say how many Union men in Kentucky are willing to receive the humiliation which they are thus invoked to accept; we hope that there are *none;* but, in the name of an inevitable fate, we warn all who do so bend their knees, that they will be accursed forever by every true Kentucky soldier who fought for the Union, and by every other patriot in the State who, during five years past, has rejoiced in a Federal victory. Not only that—*they will be despised at last by the very leaders whose tools they shall become.*

This is the very same style of denunciation which one of the Journal's correspondents applied to the members of the Legislature who have been opposing the Radical party in that body.

We think, in view of the above, the Journal ought to cancel most of the smooth, half Democratic writing which we have lately seen in its columns. It should be one thing or the other. Either speak as a statesman, temperately and consistently, or give up all pretense to anything but fierce and bitter partizanship.

JOURNAL-DEMOCRACY.—*The Journal was always Democratic!*

So says the Journal of yesterday. Well, well, this is rich! It is a good way of carrying out its design of crowding us out of the Democratic party. We are placed in the condition of an old sailor who mounted a very rebellious pony for a land voyage. The pony, after doing everything else to throw or dislodge the sailor, in kicking up, got his hind foot in the stirrup. "Well," said the old salt, "if you are going to get on I'll get off." Now when the Journal gets on, we want to know who will get on behind the Journal! How many more gentlemen will discover that they have always been Democratic? Will the Hon. R. T. Baker, and Messrs. Hawthorn and Degman, and the "*conscientious*" M. M. Benton, of Covington, and others of the simon-pure Union party, who have been invited to stay at home because they had not bayonets enough—will they too put the foot in the stirrup and tell us to dismount as we are no Democrats? Or will they be content to denounce Democracy without attempting to claim its honorable title?

Of course all such Democracy opposes Democratic conventions, either past or future.

Fisk Falls Flat!

Our readers will remember the bluster which General Fisk has made about sustaining the statements of his Cincinnati speech, and repeating it before the Legislature of Kentucky, if permitted to do so. From Indianapolis the other day we were informed that General Fisk was in that city on his way to Frankfort to prove that all he had said was true. We were further told that when he got to Frankfort there would be some "lively squirming," and that there would probably be a "nest of dead snakes" there when he got through with his exposure. Now for the sequel. We have been listening for the past two days for heavy thunder in the direction of Frankfort, when, to our astonishment, we learn that instead of going to face the Legislative Committee and the saucy editor who denounced him as a liar, the doughty General slipped like an eel through the State, and is now in Nashville, swearing that he never made the statement contained in the Cincinnati speech. What a lame and impotent conclusion.

ANOTHER POPULAR VERDICT.

Great Democratic Triumph.

It will be seen by our special dispatches from Cincinnati, that the special election in the two districts in Kentucky opposite that city, on Saturday last, resulted in overwhelming Democratic victories. Men who were elected in August last by one thousand majority, by military influence, and were unseated by the Legislature, were, when they again submitted their claims to the people, and there were no bayonets about, defeated by more than five hundred votes. Thus is the justice of the action of the Legislature, against which the Radicals raised such a howl, endorsed by the voice of the sovereign people.

The Freedmen's Bureau—The Right of Suffrage.

Not among the least remarkable of the strange freaks of radical fanaticism, is the fact, that while the negro is regarded as a minor, incapable of taking care of himself, and therefore requiring the supervisory care of the Freedmen's Bureau to manage his affairs, the demand is at the same time made that he shall be invested with the highest prerogatives of citizenship and be placed upon a platform of political equality with his white superiors.

Now, if the negro is qualified to exercise intelligently the right of suffrage, he is capable of managing his own affairs; and if he is not sufficiently experienced and intelligent to do this, he is not a proper person to make a voter of. Educated and talented white youths, possessing every qualification for any position, are not permitted to vote until they have attained the age of twenty-one, and yet it is proposed to take ignorant, half civilized negroes, just delivered from a life-time condition of slavery, and bestow upon them, without any preparation whatever, the elective franchise. Could partisan fanaticism and madness go further than this?

Arrests for Treason.

Messrs. Lewis W. Garth and J. M. Graves, of Todd county, and Darwin and Cincinnatus D. Bell, of Christian county, were brought to this city Friday night last in charge of a deputy U. S. Marshal, charged, as we are informed, with offenses growing out of, or committed in connection with, the war. They were all members of Col. T. G. Woodward's 2d Kentucky Confederate cavalry regiment. Mr. Garth was a Major, C. D. Bell was the Adjutant, and Darwin Bell a Captain. They all took the amnesty oath after their return from the South, and supposed themselves secure from arrest. It seems, however, that they were mistaken, though the precise grounds of the arrests are not stated. They are all gentlemen of high character, much esteemed in the counties in which they live, independent in their circumstances, and since the close of the war have remained quietly at their respective homes discharging their duties as peaceable citizens. They were permitted to give bail in the sum of $10,000 each for their appearance at the next term of the Federal Court.

In this connection we would remark that our attention has been called to some statements in our paper of Saturday, which are alleged to be unjust to the officers of the Federal courts. We are satisfied, from the information we have received, that the arrests were not made by the officers for their own pecuniary benefit, to secure the costs which have accrued in prosecutions instituted during the war. The fees of these officers are insignificant, and are paid by the Government. We are further advised that no case has been dismissed on payment of the costs. The officers of the Court have no discretion in these matters. It is the duty of the clerk to issue the process, and of the Marshal to execute it, in the manner prescribed by law.

Of course we had no intention of doing any injustice in the matter, and we cheerfully make the above correction, and we do it the more readily because we have been informed by the parties referred to that they were treated with unexceptionable courtesy by the Marshal and his deputies.

Death of Hon. Charles Ripley.

The legal profession of Louisville sustained yesterday, in the sudden death of Hon. Charles Ripley, the loss of a very brilliant and able member. Mr. Ripley was a native of New England, but in his youth emigrated from the land of his birth and has since then been thoroughly identified with the interests of our city and State.

The deceased frequently occupied positions of prominence and influence. He was often a member of the General Council, a representative in the lower branch of the Kentucky House of Representatives, and a member of the State Senate. Other and higher positions were doubtless in his grasp had he not preferred the severer labors of his profession, in which his whole heart and soul seemed engrossed.

As a lawyer, especially devoted to the intricate points of commercial litigation, Mr. Ripley ranked among the foremost at the bar. His mind was acute and logical, and he possessed not only energy and precision, but uncommon felicity in his diction.

For some months the deceased has been in delicate health, but the suddenness of his death shocked not only the immediate circle of his friends, but the entire community of which he has been so long a prominent member.

☞ The murderer Hughes, who was hung at Cleveland last week, and of whose execution a full report was furnished in our special dispatches to the readers of the COURIER, made a speech from the scaffold in which he stated that he did not believe Jesus Christ was the son of God, and that his anatomical knowledge proved to him that the dogma of the immaculate conception was wrong. He probably knows what is wrong and what is right before this. If he has not had some light thrown upon his mind by this time it is because they don't make fires of petroleum at the station where he stopped.

[For the Louisville Courier.]

Democratic Meeting in Mercer County.

At a meeting of the Democrats of Mercer county, held in the Court-house on Monday last, County Court day, Robert W. Alexander, Esq., was elected Chairman, and Tom. B. Carter, Secretary.

Mr. S. B. T. Daviess, after briefly explaining the object of the meeting, offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adoped:

WHEREAS, The Democratic State Central Committee have issued a call for a Convention to be held in Louisville, on Tuesday, May 1st, 1866, and approving of the holding of said Convention, it is

Resolved, 1st. That Hon. B. Magoffin, Nimrod Harris, Ben. C. Allin, J. P. Lapsley, Robert Alexander, E. D. Veach, B. N. Brewer, William Sharp, J. D. Armstrong, W. E. Cleland, J. B. Renfro, R. M. Davis, J. B. Kennedy, Abram Sharp, W. E. Keller, Ch'r Chinn, Major William Daviess, James Huff, David Board, J. M. Askew, J. A. Tomlinson, T. B. Carter, J. B. T. Daviess, Nat Gaither, Major W. A. Hooe, E. L. Polk, Ch'r Gordon, T. J. Hopper, J. G. Handy, Dr. W. Campbell, C. A. Hardin, M. Cummings, D. J. Jackson, A. G. Kyle, S. M. Jones, J. G. Driskell, John J. Driskell, Sam Dumeree, William Campbell, J. L. Wilson, J. W. Gray, Mat Simmons, J. S. Burris, O. R. Wheat, S. C. S. Vanarsdall, William Atkinson, Paul Conner, William H. Norton and A. Sea, and any others belonging to the Conservative Democratic party who may attend; be, and they are hereby appointed delegates to said Convention.

Resolved, 2d. That these resolutions be published in the Mercer Banner, and all other Democratic newspapers of this State.

ROBERT W. ALEXANDER, Chairman.

T. B. CARTER, Secretary.

Dr. Graves' Diptheria Cure.

HARRISON COUNTY, IND., Feb. 7, 1866.

DR. GRAVES—*Dear Sir:*—If you recollect I applied to you several weeks since to know if you had any medicine that would cure a sore throat, and that I told you mine had been so for eight months, and that several eminent physicians had prescribed for me, and I was then suffering very much. You told me that you had a remedy for diptheria that you thought might help me, and gave me a bottle with which I cured my son of a very sore throat in thirteen hours, and was so much benefited with the small amount left as to get the second bottle. Allow me now to say to you, that I feel it my duty to report the facts to you, as it has, without any other medicine, cured me, and several of my neighbors desire to have it introduced into our neighborhood. By sending a supply to Georgetown it will meet with ready sale. My opinion of the remedy is the same as of your Ague Pills, that it will not fail to cure.

Respectfully yours,

JOS. E. KERN.

DEATH OF AN OLD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.—By reference to our obituary column it will be seen that Aaron Dupree, who, during the life of Mr. Clay, was his faithful servant, died on the 6th inst. He accompanied the great statesman in all his travels in Europe, and was with him during the long time he served in public office. In his old age he was kindly and generously provided for by Mr. John M. Clay, at whose residence he died.—[Lexington Observer and Reporter.

Gen. Palmer's Letter.

We publish in another column a letter from Gen. Palmer, on the subject of the present condition of Kentucky, and on the question of the Federal forces therein. The letter was written in response to one addressed to him by the editors of the Louisville Journal, asking him what was necessary, in his judgment, to be done, to procure the restoration of the writ of *habeas corpus* and the removal of the Freedmen's Bureau and the United States troops from the State.

Gen. Palmer is very candid in his reply, and probably states the case as it appears to him from his standpoint. But it appears to us that his prejudices against the rebellion and all connected with it, obscure the clearness of his vision and lead him to magnify things into positive dangers which are not in themselves important, and which, fairly considered as mere social evils, are more easily controlled by State authority, and would sooner be removed by State laws and jurisdiction than by all the objectionable appliances and agencies which the General Government is now bringing to bear against them. Indeed, it must be manifest to every candid man, that the Freedmen's Bureau and the presence of troops are the real causes of much of the exasperations and bad feeling of which he complains, and for which he thinks that Federal power is the only cure. The fact that our people are deprived of their civil rights and exposed to the control of an armed soldiery, and that the inquisitive and impertinent machinery of a Freedmen's Bureau is thrust into the management of our domestic concerns, keeps alive resentments and jealousies which would not otherwise exist.

Some of the reasons assigned by General Palmer for the present condition of things, prominent as he makes them, appear to us to possess very little importance. For instance: he states that Confederate officers and soldiers, returning from the treason and battle-fields of the South to their homes, have been received with extravagant exhibitions of joy, and welcomed as heroes. Is it strange, we would ask, that these men, who, whether their principles are sound and correct or not, have exhibited genuine heroism in their defense, for they have staked their lives in their vindication, have been absent for years, should be received by friends, relatives and neighbors, upon their return, with every token of joy and affection? We think not; and there is nothing in the fact, either to excite the suspicion or to arouse the resentment of the Government. Mankind can not control their admiration of the heroic, and those men who gave their best efforts and staked their lives in a cause the result of which was always doubtful, and who returned to their homes covered with scars, perhaps broken in health and certainly poor in purse, were looked upon like those of old, who, foot-sore and weary, came back from the unsuccessful efforts to recover the holy sepulchre. The demonstrations of joy which greeted their return were not indications of a rebellious spirit, and should not be treated as a crime.

The statements that loyal men would not be safe without the presence of an armed soldiery; that the courts are used as instruments of vengeance, and that troops are necessary to protect the freedmen, are general conclusions without specific facts to support them, and without any evidence that a better condition of things would not exist with the laws and authority of the State in full and efficient action. For ourselves, we honestly believe that the things of which Gen. Palmer complains are in a great measure the result of the things of which we complain. In the presence of an arbitrary military power, the State laws are paralyzed; the people do not feel called upon to furnish information or to give their assistance, and as military power, with a limited force, cannot be as pervading as the civil authority which it displaces would be, and as it cannot and does not, in the nature of things, receive the sympathy and assistance which civil authority would, it is to that extent less efficient for the prevention of disorders and the suppression of crime.

Between the great body of the whites and the great body of the negroes, there is no serious spirit of antagonism or rivalry of interest—certainly no desire to commit injustice against the helpless class. What ill feeling there may be, is certainly rendered more active and intense by the Freedmen's Bureau, which is regarded as a standing menace against the people.

There is not the slightest danger that the black population will not receive all necessary protection and full justice at the hands of the State authorities. It is both the interest and the inclination of the people to deal fairly with them, and there never was any probability of any other treatment, until the Freedmen's Bureau, with its aggravating machinery, and its intrusive and impertinent practices, was introduced as a disturbing element. The desire of our people to conciliate the blacks and to employ their labor, not less than the humane and christian feelings of our people, would always have guarded that class of our population from outrage and oppression. The fact that the civil authorities have not punished outrages against Freedmen cannot be regarded as a just reproach against the State authorities, when it is remembered that the military have not permitted or tolerated any interference with their concerns.

We do sincerely hope that the opinion expressed by General Palmer, in his concluding paragraphs, that the evils complained of will soon be removed, may not prove to be without foundation, and that the day is not far distant when the people of Kentucky may once more realize and enjoy the benign influence and gentle sway of civil law.

☞ A suit against the United States Telegraph Company, tried at Detroit, last week, resulted in a verdict of $47,40 for plaintiff. It appears that in May last, Julius Rhæsa, employed as a cigar maker at Detroit, being anxious about his family, telegraphed them at Yonkers, N. Y., and receiving no reply after three days, started for Yonkers, where he discovered no dispatch had been received. Just on the point of return to Detroit the dispatch came to hand, having been mailed from Albany. Rhæsa sued for cost of dispatch ($2) and traveling expenses to Yonkers and return, and won his case. This is the first time in Michigan, we believe, of a telegraph company's being sued for delay, though some suits have been brought against companies for delay.

☞ General F. H. Smith, Superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute, stated the other day that five of its faculty fell in battle—Lieutenant General Stonewall Jackson, Major General Rhodes, Colonel Crutchfield, Captain Morgan and Lieutenant Crittenden. Colonel Crutchfield, who had just been elected to fill the chair of Jackson, fell in one of the last battles of the war, and left among his papers a manuscript volume on Analytical Geometry, written by him while confined to his bed from wounds received at Chancellorsville. Besides these, one hundred and twenty-five of its allumni fell in battle, embracing such names as the Allens, Patton, Williams, Mallory, Smith, Garrett and Latimer.

REIMBURSING LOYAL STATES.—The Special Committee on the War Debt of the Loyal States had a protracted meeting the other day, for the purpose of coming to some conclusion on a bill to reimburse the States for money expended by them during the war. It is proposed to issue twenty-year five or six per cent. bonds, which are to be given to the States for the respective amounts agreed on by the Committee, upon the basis of so much for each man furnished by the States. The whole amount will, doubtless, reach one hundred and fifty million dollars, to be apportioned on the basis already named. Mr. Blaine, of Maine, Chairman of the committee, will draw up a bill, on the floor, agreed on by the Committee.

☞ A Paris paper states that a bevy of ladies, closely veiled, recently passed along the boulevards of that city, making purchases at the most modest stores and leaving the articles to be sent for. They paid in gold. It was subsequently ascertained that the party included the Empress and ladies of her court, who adopt this mode of giving an impetus to the retail trade.

John C. Breckinridge.

A rumor reaches us from Kentucky that we should be very reluctant to credit, to the effect that the Conservatives in the Legislature were influenced in postponing the election of United States Senator by the hope that the efforts made to secure the pardon of John C. Breckinridge will be successful, in which case they intend to nominate and elect him—if they have the numerical strength to do it, in the next Legislature—to the United States Senate.

Some color is given to this rumor by a paragraph in a recent number of the Louisville Courier, urging his election as the best thing to be done.—[Cincinnati Commercial.

We must confess our surprise at finding the above quoted paragraphs in a paper usually so liberal as the Commercial. So far as we in Kentucky know anything in regard to the subject referred to, there has been no movement, nor is there any intention or expectation of doing anything of the sort. What could be more absurd than to elect a man to represent us in the United States Senate, who is an exile in a foreign land and who would be arrested the moment he placed himself within the jurisdiction of the Government? Kentucky wants a representative in the Senate and not one in Canada. Our interests require that we should be heard at Washington, and our present exigencies will not admit of our paying such idle compliments as this would be, however strong our prejudices and predilections.

The secret of the postponement of the Senatorial election is probably deeper than the Commercial has yet reached. It is not that the conservatives, as they are called, desire or expect to elect Mr. Breckinridge in the next Legislature, for the election is not postponed until a new Legislature is elected, but to an adjourned session of the Legislature now in session. Consequently, it will be made by the same men who now postpone the election, all of whom were elected outside of the votes of what is called the rebel element of the population. The true cause of the postponement of the election, we imagine, is, that neither the straight out Democrats, the Conservatives, or the Radicals, in the Legislature, saw any chance of electing a man of their choice, and being unable to combine, they concluded to throw the election over to the adjourned session next winter.

The Commercial is very much in error in its statement that we have urged the election of Mr. Breckinridge. We have never suggested or advocated any such thing. The Commercial's Washington correspondent, in some ill-natured flings at Kentucky, expressed the opinion that the rebel tactics in this State might possibly rise to the point of impudence and audacity of returning Mr. Breckinridge to the Senate. In reply, we simply expressed the opinion that if she did so she would do no discredit to herself, and would have a worthy and talented representative. It was in this connection that we used the language which the Commercial quotes, which is as follows:

Could a better, an abler, or a more gallant man be sent there? Would he not honor that body more than it could honor him? Would he not stand there without a peer in everything that constitutes true greatness, and reflect dignity and credit, by his association, upon a set of men who are fast bringing reproach, by their mediocrity and fanaticism, upon the time-honored reputation of the American Senate, made illustrious by the names of Webster and Clay?

We simply intended, in this language, to express our admiration of Kentucky's glorious and heroic son, but did not intimate that we desired, or that any one else desired, his election, or that such a thing was either among the probabilities or the possibilities. But we have no hesitation in saying that if he was in a position to accept this high trust, he would be our choice above all men who walk the earth. But, as we have said, we cannot afford to pay compliments at the expense of the best interests of the State. Kentucky is now slandered, misrepresented and maligned on every side, and we need a voice in the Senate to defend our rights and to speak in opposition to the wild and intemperate utterances of fanatics and political desperadoes.

This cry against Mr. Breckinridge is simply an effort to excite additional prejudice against us. Those who have started this cry know as well as we do that the election of Mr. B. is not contemplated by any party in the State, and that his election would not accomplish anything if it was made. Why the Radical press will persist in their efforts to excite and influence the Northern people against us, we cannot conceive. The people of the State are peaceable, orderly and law-abiding. They are proposing no resistance to law, are doing nothing of which the Government has a right to complain, ask only to be let alone, and hope ardently for the early pacification of the country, and the restoration of the Government.

Kentucky having always been regarded by the Government as a loyal State, having contributed her share to its support during the war, both in men and money—having remained in the Union when her sister slave States went out, feels that she is now shamefully treated by those with whom she stood shoulder to shoulder during the war, in their efforts to uphold the Union.

Even the Cincinnati Commercial, professing more candor and more liberality than most Northern journals, joins in the hue and cry against us, and by misrepresenting the position of the COURIER, which is usually regarded and spoken of as the rebel organ of the State, seeks to add to the public exasperation against us. Under these circumstances what chance have we for a fair and impartial hearing?

The President and His Policy.

The announcement by the President, in his reply to the address of the Colorado committee, that he believed that he was standing upon the true ground, and that he did not intend to be driven from his position, will cause a sense of relief throughout the country. Those who did not know the man were apprehensive that the bitterness and formidable character of the radical opposition might intimidate him and cause him to abandon the policy he had marked out, and which he had from the first so steadily followed. But it is now manifest that he has accepted the challenge so rudely thrown down by Thad. Stevens, and that he intends to fight it out in that line, if it takes him all winter. Neither the threat of impeachment, or the intimations that his usurpations may cause him the loss of his head, will deter him from following the path of duty. The fight is fairly opened, and either he or the Radicals must go down. He, we feel assured, will never surrender; and unless the Radicals want a combat to the death they will be compelled to adopt and carry out his views. Knowing the President as we do, and familiar with his history and peculiarities as we are, we never looked for anything from him than stern and unbending adherence to his own policy; but his late declarations will give assurance to thousands who have not known the man, and who doubted his resolute purpose to defy all opposition, and with unwavering faith in the result, defend to the last the ground on which he stands.

☞ Greely don't like the President's speech to Fred Douglass and company, and tells the darkies not to despair. He also consoles them with the quotation that "the meek shall inherit the earth." Certainly the meekness of the colored brethren was very fairly illustrated by Fred and his committee when they attempted to get up a debating society in the White House to teach the President the true doctrine of the rights of man and the duties of statesmanship. That was meekness with a vengeance! And then their insolent card in reply to the President published in the papers is another sample of the meekness which we suppose the philosopher of the Tribune admires.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—John Frank, a private of co. B., 2d U. S. Infantry, met with an accident which terminated fatally. On Saturday of last week, while at sport with some of his companions, he undertook to turn a sommersault, and in the act unfortunately dislocated his spine, from the effect of which he died the day following. The deceased was a good soldier, and had passed unscathed through all the battles of the Potomac army. He will be buried with military honors.

☞ A portion of the galleries of the Senate chamber at Washington has been set aside for the colored spectators.

A Civil Word to Our Neighbors.

The Journal and Democrat co-operate in misrepresenting the COURIER, and so effectually are we misrepresented that most of those who do not read the COURIER are misled as to its position and policy.

To begin with the Journal. Why do the editors keep up the cry that the COURIER is a secession newspaper and aims simply to organize a secession party and to proscribe Union men? We have done nothing to justify the charge; we have continually denied it; and every one knows that there are no advocates of secession in Kentucky. The Journal acknowledges that the COURIER and its friends are acting in a good spirit to promote the peace of the State, and are worthy of friendly treatment, and yet in almost the same breath charges us with forming a secession party that will have a tendency to prolong the stay of the military in the State. Who but the Journal has informed them that we are organizing such a party? Such suggestions look malicious; and yet we find in the Journal, frequently, sound and liberal suggestions, of which the following are examples:

The bitter controversy brought about by the rise of political anti-slaveryism in the North not only prevented a peaceful solution of the slavery question *by the Southern people themselves*, but has cost the country half a million of valuable lives, and clothed every third or fourth family in the land in mourning, besides piling up in five years a national debt almost equal to that of Great Britain, which has been more than two hundred years in accumulating. Nor is this all, and, *possibly, not the worst.* There are symptoms of another controversy, upon a changed basis it is true, but involving the same principle as that which led to the war.—[Journal.

The wife of Gen. Lee is applying for the restoration of the magnificent Arlington estate. And why should it not be restored? How has Gen. Lee deserved, more than all the other rebel officers, to be punished by confiscation?—[Journal.

But the Journal, not content with making these good Democratic expressions, *actually claims to be in full sympathy and fellowship with the national Democratic party!* and elbows aside both the COURIER and the Democrat as not belonging to the Democratic party. If the Journal would come in modestly to the Democratic party—ask pardon for its various offenses and protracted war against that party and take a back seat, for a short time at least, it would be politely treated, but to rush in by breaking down the doors, and endeavoring to drive out all the occupants of the temple, will be a very unsuccessful undertaking.

The Democrat assails us in just the same style as the Journal. It persists in the idea that we are trying to break up Democratic harmony by organizing the Southern wing of the Democratic party against all others. The truth is the whole of the doubt and division among the Democrats of Kentucky originated with the Louisville Democrat, and so long as that paper chooses to denounce the friends of a Convention and charge them with proscriptive designs which do not exist, so long will that unpleasant feeling continue. Those who stand by the Convention of 1864, with its anti-war platform, and who had a right to expect the co-operation of the Democrat, will not be driven from their position by its unfriendly tone, or by its effort to call off the conservative Democrats and prevent their co-operation with the majority of the party. Nor will the honest conservatives be long misled by this factious influence when they see that the Convention aims at harmony, and that its policy is such as all honest Democrats must support.

The Journal objects to the Democratic Central Committee, that the "Union party" will not follow them, because they are "rebellion Democrats," although it would be easy to prove the majority of the committee to be as good Union men as the editors of the Louisville Journal. The Democrat professes to think as highly of the members of the committee as we do, but still it opposes their call, because they are not the representatives of a *conservative Legislative caucus*, to which that paper thinks all the powers of the Democratic party ought to be handed over. In short, both Democrat and Journal agree that the Democratic party in Kentucky ought not to be represented by Democrats such as they selected when they met in convention. In this respect, the Democratic party certainly does not agree with those newspapers. The Journal's opposition to the Democratic party is chronic, but we did expect something else from the Democrat, and hope it will reconsider its position.

☞ A dispatch to the Cincinnati Commercial says that the Texas State Convention refused, by a vote of forty-one to thirty-nine, to take the amnesty oath prescribed by President Johnson. We think there is some error in this statement, for, we doubt not, the members of this Convention have already all taken the amnesty oath.

☞ A Connecticut paper tells the following. It may be true, but it reads like a well-gotten up Parisian story:

Norfolk is exercised about body-snatchers, who, on Sunday night last, dug up the body of a young lady who had been buried that afternoon, and succeeded beyond their anticipations. She had been buried while in a cataleptic fit, and, upon being exposed to the night air, animation was restored. The resurrectionists fled, and she walked home. Her parents refused to admit her, believing her to be a ghost. She then went to the house of a young man to whom she was engaged. He took her in, and on Monday morning they were married.

President Johnson in Correspondence with the Old Tammany Hall Democracy, of New York—He is Invited to the Democratic Eighth of January Celebration.

TAMMANY HALL, NEW YORK, December 18, 1865.

SIR: The Ancient Society of Tammany, in pursuance of its time-honored customs, will celebrate the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, by a grand dinner, at Tammany Hall, on Monday, January 8, 1866, at 6 o'clok P. M.

Since the establishment of the society in 1789 it has commemorated those events in the history of our country which animate the patriotism of our people and strengthen their devotion to our glorious Union; and among these none were more conspicuous or more important than the great victory which saved our south-western frontier from butchery and plunder, and closed the war of 1812 in a blaze of glory.

The recent sad civil strife has given rise to celebrations in the opposing sections of our Union, which are designed to commemorate the victories of brethren over brethren. It is with unfeigned joy that the Tammany Society hail the advent of a season when they can recur to an event which no achievements in our subsequent history can ever dim, and which reunited brethren in every portion of our glorious Republic can celebrate with equal pride and gratification. It is in this spirit, and with a promise of cordial welcome, that the Sons of Tammany invite you to their semi-centennial celebration of the great victory of a Southern hero, who filled the world with the fame of American valor, and devoted his subsequent life to the establishment and security of constitutional liberty. We have the honor to be your obedient servants.

John T. Hoffman,	August Belmont,
Elijah F. Purdy,	Samuel J. Tilden,
John Van Buren,	Charles G. Cornell,
S. L. M. Barlow,	Wm. McMurray,
Mat. T. Brennan,	John Kelly,
A. L. Robertson,	Douglass Taylor,
Daniel Devlin,	Isaac Bell,
E. Pierrepont,	John E. Burrill,
James T. Brady,	John J. Bradley,
Wm. M. Tweed,	Richard O'Gorman,
S. Cambreling,	Daniel E. Delavan,
Charles P. Daly,	O. Ottendorfer,
Peter B. Sweeny,	Emanuel B. Hart,
Geo. W. McLean,	Jas. B. Nicholson,
John E. Develin,	Nath'l Jarvis, Jun.,
John R. Briggs,	

Committee of Arrangements.

JOHN VAN BUREN, Chairman.

DOUGLASS TAYLOR, Secretary.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, January 2, 1866.

SIR: I take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt from the Ancient Society of Tammany of an invitation to attend their semi-centennial celebration of the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans. It would afford me sincere gratification to join you in commemorating the eminent services of the hero of that great victory, who, in field and in council, ever signalized his devotion to the Union of the States, and won for himself enduring national renown. My engagements, however, will not permit me to be present, and I regret this the more as the occasion is in honor of an event to which, as you justly remark, reunited brethren in every portion of the Republic can recur with equal gratification and pride. The inspirations derived from the contemplation of common trials, common victories, and national traditions sacredly cherished by every American, cannot fail to exert an important influence in healing the irritation of sectional wounds and strengthening the feeling of devotion to the Federal Union, the maintenance and preservation of which, in all its dignity and purity, was the sole aim of the intrepid and incorruptible patriot, Andrew Jackson.

With great respect, sincerely yours,

ANDREW JOHNSON.

Hon. JOHN VAN BUREN, Chairman, &c., New York City

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

Speech of Hon. James Guthrie.

In the United States Senate, on the 8th inst., in the discussion on the Freedmen's Bureau bill, which was passed, Mr. Guthrie made the following remarks:

MR. PRESIDENT: I do not mean to attempt to travel over the whole subject of this bill. I rose, in the first instance, because of the imputation the Senator from Indiana [Mr. Lane] chose to cast upon the loyalty of Kentucky. I will say to that Senator that he does not know Kentucky; that she is not in the hands of rebels, and never has been. A truer and more loyal people to the Union of these States never existed, and she has testified it throughout this whole war. That there have been rebels and disloyal persons in the State of Kentucky I do not pretend to deny; but what State in the Union is there that has not contained some men who were false to their Government? The Senator from Indiana, once a Kentuckian, is a Kentuckian no longer. He does not know the people of Kentucky or their sentiments. I stood in Kentucky during this long contest, a part of the time in the very midst of the strife, and almost in the midst of the war, and I know that Kentucky is loyal to the core, and since we changed the Government from the existing Governor at the time the difficulties were breaking out, we have always had a loyal Governor and a loyal Legislature, and we have at this day. There are some local differences about men, and different men may have their friends, and they may defeat or postpone an election. They did postpone the election when I was sent here; but there was no disloyalty that caused the postponement. There was no disloyalty that caused the postponement last year. You cannot trust a better people, a more loyal people, or a people who have made more sacrifices for this Union than the people of Kentucky; but, gentlemen, you will pardon me for saying it, you treat them as though they were rebels, and upon false information you are led to believe it. It is an unpleasant thing to be told by gentlemen that we come from a disloyal State, and that they are not willing to listen to us, nor give us a fair hearing in the decision of questions here. But, sir, we were sent here to help the Government to the best of our ability and judgment, and no distrust shall make us fail in our duty.

Let me say to you, Senators, that you made a sad mistake when you raised the committee of fifteen. That was the foundation of postponing the acknowledgement of these Southern States. You will have to acknowledge these States and let them in, or you will have to do worse. It is not worth while to speculate as to what will be the consequences. You have provided in this Freedmen's Bureau bill and another bill for governing them for five or twenty years as provinces, to be governed by military men, and military judges are provided, from whose decisions there is no appeal, with no provision for a jury, and the judgment of the officer of the Freedmen's Bureau is to be the sole measure of damages. Our experience in Kentucky is that the Freedmen's Bureau is a system for plundering the people. We know an instance where a man declared that it was too much power to give to any one, but he was living upon the country there and he intended that his books should show a balance. What is to be done with the fines that are imposed and collected by this bureau? This bill does not say. They are to go into the pockets of these officers; they have gone into their pockets in Kentucky; and hence, during this war, we have been plundered by Federal officers who have arrested our people and compelled them to pay large fines to be released, and we have been plundered by the rebels when they invaded our State. We have suffered all this, and our patriotism and our loyalty have endured through all these evils. You have not treated Kentucky as a member of this Union, and this very bill shows the prejudices that exist against her. Kentucky is the only loyal State that is selected by the bill, as it comes from the House, for this system of punishment. The gentleman from Illinois says that he does not like congressional legislation which does not apply to all the States, but here is a proposition passed by Congress, which has no authority to pass anything but general laws, except in the disposition of lands in the Territories, confined expressly, if not in terms, to one section of this Union, which, with the exception of Kentucky, is without a representative here to be heard in behalf of its people.

I tell you, gentlemen, that the passage of this system of bills is a dissolution of this Union, and you can not help it. You can not govern them upon this system of government as conquered States. If they are conquered, they offer to come in. You refuse them; you are going to have guarantees. They fold their arms. They have knocked for admission and you have denied them. Their appeal now is to the American people, to the sound sense of the nation, to the honest feelings of a free people; is this right? Is this according to the examples of our revolutionary fathers? Is it what out to be done? When that appeal is made, from the South and the North, the East and the West, a verdict will come up, either approving your course or condemning it. If it is approved, there can be no Union; it will be impossible for you to carry on this Government under any such system. As the war is now over, I think we should admit these States as a matter of policy. I do not go into the question of the justice of it. States govern by policy; States ought to govern by policy; but instead of that, instead of forgiveness, instead of receiving them with open arms, we heap upon them unmitigated abuse, and in this very bill are providing for their government for a term of years as conquered provinces.

I do not desire to go into a discussion of this measure again. I consider it, so far as Kentucky is concerned, as a warrant to plunder our people in the future as they have been plundered in the past. We have been a patient people because we thought that we were making a sacrifice to the Union. But when the Union is not to be restored, when there is nothing of that feeling to make the people endure, do you suppose they will endure forever? Do you suppose this bill will attach the people in these eleven States more thoroughly to the Union than they felt when they reorganized their State governments, passed laws manumitting their slaves, electing their Legislatures, and doing all that was indicated as necessary to be done? Do you suppose that there will ever come a time under this bill that they will desire to become members of this Union once more? I see in this bill exactly how Kentucky is tolerated here, for as to having part in this legislation, when she is charged openly with being ruled at home by rebels, our counsels can be of no good here; but still we are not to be driven from the Union, and from raising our voice in favor of it, and raising it in favor of conciliation and confidence from one section to the other. Gentlemen do not get these doctrines of hatred and vengeance from the Gospel. These are not the doctrines taught by the Saviour of the world. While you cry for justice to the African, you are not slow to commit wrong and outrage on the white race.

I always regret to feel as I do now, that this bill is doing an injustice to Kentucky, that it is impolitic to the balance of the States, that it is calculated for mischief, and that I and the rest of the representatives from Kentucky are mistrusted here because you have got it into your heads from some source or other that there are rebels in Kentucky.

Sir, there were rebels in all the States. There was in the beginning, and will be again if you drive these people to desperation. The Senator from Massachusetts, if I understand his language aright, threatened us with war or worse if we did not yield to his suggestions, and the Senator from Indiana intimated very strongly the same thing. You have strength enough to carry these measures, if it is the sentiment of the nation; but we are not a people to be alarmed by words or threats. Most of us are willing to impart to these colored people what the nation has granted, and to accord it freely, and to the full extent. There are prejudices among our people that prevent some of them from coming to this now; but we think you are not yet prepared to drop your prejudices in relation to the necessary legislation for the South and what must be done with these people. They belong to the South; they belong to the States where they are; and it is for them to govern this question; and it is better for them and better for you and for us all that that system of government be early commenced, and that the two races get to understand each other. The Utopian hopes that gentlemen entertain in regard to the African population can never be realized, and if they are not realized they will not be so anxious to confer the right of suffrage upon them, nor so ready to denounce everybody that will not agree to it. I know that the passage of this Freedmen's Bureau bill is declared, and that the degradation of Kentucky, so far as she can be degraded by Congressional legislation, is declared. I am prepared to counsel peace, to counsel fidelity to the Union, to counsel the people to wait the day when a better feeling and a better sentiment will prevail throughout the Union that will do Kentucky justice.

RECEIPTS OF CUSTOMS.—The receipts from customs at the four principal ports of entry during January, were as follows; New York, $12,441,591 31; Boston, $1,014,-658 46; Philadelphia, $508,516 78; Baltimore, $284,770 64. Total, $14,249,598 19. The total receipts, when all the ports are heard from, will amount, it is estimated, to nearly seventeen millions in gold.

☞ The President's speech to the Virginia delegation was so bunglingly reported, both to this city and Cincinnati, as to render many portions of it almost entirely unintelligible. There were also many omissions, which destroyed the sense of what was printed. When we get a correct copy of this important speech, it will be published in the COURIER in full.

☞ The first Methodist sermon in Illinois was preached by Joseph Lillard, in 1793. Regular preaching in the State was commenced in 1803, at which time it constituted a circuit of the Kentucky Conference. In the minutes of 1804 is the following appointment: "Illinois, Benj. Young, missionary."

Letter from General Palmer on Kentucky Affairs.

In response to a letter from the editors of the Louisville Journal to ascertain from him what, in his opinion, would the most speedily remove the difiulties existing in this State, effect the restoration of the writ of *habeas corpus*, the removal of troops and the Freedmen's Bureau from the State of Kentucky, and protesting against the rule of the Freedmen's Bureau, General Palmer has made the following reply:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KY., LOUISVILLE, KY., Feb. 9, 1866.

Messrs. Prentice, Henderson & Osborne:

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th instant, in which you properly take for granted that I desire to promote unity of action between the authorities of this State and the National Government in the settlement of the difficulties which surround the citizens of Kentucky, and inquire what, in my judgment, will the most speedily remove the difficulties, secure the restoration of the writ of *habeas corpus*, the removal of the troops and the Freedmen's Bureau from the State, and ask, "if the war is over and peace restored, why should not Kentucky be relieved from all interference with her internal affairs on the part of the National Government?" I proceed at once to say that it does not require that intimate knowledge of the "views of the Washington authorities," which you are pleased to attribute to me, to answer your specific question above quoted, nor your general statements of the difficulties which surround the people of Kentucky in their relations with the National Government. The public acts and declarations of the President, his official orders and dispatches, under the authority of which, the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* is continued, and the troops, and the Freedmen's Bureau, introduced into, and kept in the State, furnish an ample statement of the reasons which influence his actions, and point, with the utmost certainty, to the means which must be employed to procure a change in his policy. The measures of which that portion of the people of Kentucky whose feelings you express complain, had their origin in necessity, and I feel authorized to assert that no disposition exists at Washington to continue them in the State one moment after the necessity ceases.

Waiving all discussion of the question whether the war has ceased or not, it is apparent that late political and military events have revolutionized the relations of the people of the State. More than twenty thousand persons, who were for a longer or shorter period of time in arms for the avowed purpose of overthrowing the government of the State of Kentucky, and forcing its unwilling people into subjection to a hostile revolutionary government, have returned to the State, welcomed back to their former homes in many cases by communities that regard them as patriots and heroes. In many such communities, loyal citizens and soldiers are objects of prejudice, dislike, and often of persecution.

Courts organized under the laws of the State for the equal distribution of justice, in many instances, have permitted themselves to be used as the mere instruments of the vengeance of those who are hostile to the Government, so that loyal men are still, in some parts of the State, compelled to leave their homes, or, if they remain, are constrained to feel that their lives and property, and all their dearest interests, are insecure.

The duty of protecting all the people of the State, and especially those who have periled their lives in its defense, is one that no Government can neglect, and, at the same time, escape the imputation of ingratitude and subjecting itself to merited contempt. It is also true that upward of two hundred thousand of the people who were, until lately, slaves are now free. As slaves they were governed by a system of law adapted to their condition, but the same laws were intended to embarrass them as freemen.

The slave laws fell with the destruction of slavery and left the State without a system of government or laws adapted to the necessities of this two hundred thousand of its people, who have now devolved upon them the duties of obedience to the Government and the discharge of many public and private obligations, to which they have heretofore been strangers, and yet have not, under existing laws of the State, the rights of either citizens or aliens.

The President of the United States, under these circumstances, has attempted to discharge toward the State of Kentucky, for the benefit of such of its people as are not yet embraced within its general system of protective laws, the constitutional duty of providing for them a Government—a duty which does not originate in any law enacted by Congress, but from the Constitution itself.

I am aware of the fact, though I do not pretend to speak from authority, that it is the opinion of the "authorities at Washington," that the duty of giving protection and law to all the inhabitants of the State of Kentucky properly devolves upon the authorities of the State, and the Federal interference for that purpose results entirely from Constitutional duty and necessity.

It is certainly the right as well as the duty of the States, within certain limits, to regulate their own internal affairs. This right is not denied, and it will be observed that the representatives of the General Government in this State, under the Freedmen's Bureau, where its powers have been rightly understood, do not act adversely to the authorities of the State, or interfere with any affair which the State has so far attempted to regulate. The right of all the inhabitants to liberty is secure beyond the power of the State to abridge or restrict it.

It is the duty of the General Government, with or without the concurrence of the State, to protect the liberty of the people, and in case of the non-action on the part of the State authorities, to provide them with a government which shall be adequate to the ends for which governments are ordained among men.

As, then, the State has so far altogether neglected to provide a special system of laws for its freed people, or to include them within the provisions of its general laws which define and protect the rights of all other inhabitants of the State, upon what grounds do any of her people complain of "the interference of the National Government?" I assert, with as much earnestness and with as high regard for the honor of the people of my native State as any one possesses, that the general treatment of slaves in Kentucky was humane and kind, and that the people generally recognize the fact that slavery has ceased; but that many outrages have been committed upon negroes in many parts of the State is true beyond all doubt, and *after the most careful inquiries I have been unable to hear of a single instance in which the civil authorities have punished the aggressors.*

Nor are the authorities of the law wholly to blame for this failure of justice, for I have now in my possession the most satisfactory proof, by the statement of colored persons, who, I am assured, are of good character, of the murder of two negroes by white men, who are beyond the reach of criminal justice because of the legal incompetency of colored persons to be witnesses in the courts.

In addition to outrages of that kind, combinations of lawless men exist in many places to drive the colored people from the State, and to prevent them from obtaining employment. Proof from the most respectable source has been laid before me of these facts; still none are punished.

Such acts, I gladly confess, are condemned by the great mass of the citizens, but none demand their punishment. White men naturally desire to escape the ill-will of these self-styled "Regulators," and negroes, however much they may be outraged and injured in person or property, will not be heard by the courts or juries.

Does not this "internal affair" of allowing its courts to listen (not believe unless convinced) to the complaints of men and women who suffer or are witnesses of wrongs inflicted upon others demand "regulating," and can a just Government discharge its duties of protecting all its people without affording, under such circumstances, something like redress?

I have made my answer much longer than I intended, but cannot conclude without expressing my regret that you should have thought it necessary to disclose to me "that the people of Kentucky are not willing to accord to the freedmen superior privileges, and they are not willing that the agents of the Freedmen's Bureau should rule the State according to their own *dicta* regardless of law."

There is, I am sure, no purpose or wish on the part of the Government, or any of its officers with whose purposes I am acquainted, to demand for the freedmen anything more than such rights as are essential to them as persons who are now under obligations to the State, to their families and themselves, to discharge all the duties which devolve upon them in their new relations to their fellow-men, and I must be allowed to add that the Freedmen's Bureau, notwithstanding the mistakes sometimes committed by those who excercise its powers, has accomplished much, very much good.

It is, in my judgment, at present, absolutely necessary in the State. Pardon me for adding that the measures of the Government, that is, the suspension of the *habeas corpus* the presence of troops, and the Freedmen's Bureau, are still adhered to in this State as essential to the protection of its people.

I anticipate that the improving condition of this State will justify the restoration of the writ of *habeas corpus* and a considerable reduction of the numbers of the troops at an early day, and that the Freedmen's Bureau will be removed as soon as the people of the State admit freedmen into their courts as suiters and witnesses, upon a footing with all other persons, to be believed when they tell the truth, and receive justice according to law.

Respectfully,

JOHN. M. PALMER.

☞ The marriage of Princess Helena, the smartest of Queen Victoria's children, and the Prince of Augustenberg, the poorest of European princes, has been postponed till July.

☞ The Mobile Register calls Parson Brownlow, the present Governor of Tennessee, a compound of tiger, black-guard and bigot.

Who is Responsible?

In 1862 and 1863, a number of the citizens of Kentucky were indicted in the United States District Court, held in this city, for treason against the United States. Since the termination of the war, the President has pardoned a number of those so indicted. Recently these parties so pardoned are being arrested to answer these indictments. They are immediately locked up in the jail of this city with felons, and the exhibition of their pardon avails them not. Why is this? Is it designed to test the efficiency of the pardon of Andrew Johnson, of Tennessee? Some have suggested that the object is merely to put money in the purses of the District Attorney, Marshal and Clerk, as upon the payment of costs and exhibition of the pardon, the indictments are dismissed.

Can it be possible that any of these officers are actuated by such mercenary motives, and that to appease their avarice, they thus harass our citizens? Who is responsible? The object is certainly not to punish treason, for always upon taking out the writ of *habeas corpus*, the exhibition of the pardon, *and proof of the payment of costs,* the party is released. And yet these arrests go on. We are informed that several gentlemen arrived here last night, and were incerated in the dungeon, to be released in the morning upon *payment of all costs.*

Exciting Affair in Mercer County—The Freedmen's Bureau on a Rampage.

The Mercer Banner gives an account of a case of the exercise of high-handed authority by the Freedmen's Bureau. In a few words it is simply this:

A man by the name of Poor, a discharged Union soldier, while in a state of intoxication, shot and killed a negro man without any provocation. He was brought before Hon. Thos. Edwards, Presiding Judge of the Circuit Court, at Harrisburg, on the 2d, and the case was continued until the 3d, when he was again brought into Court. While the case was progressing, Capt. Wm. Goodloe, of the Freedmen's Bureau, made his appearance with a detachment of colored troops and presented an order from Gen. Fisk for the custody of the prisoner. As a matter of course the civil authorities were compelled to submit and the prisoner was taken to Camp Nelson, where he was at last accounts, in a room with about twenty negro criminals, in irons!

This is a sample of the liberty now vouchsafed to Kentucky. Her people deprived of all civil rights, the *habeas corpus* and trial by jury refused, the courts treated with contempt, white men imprisoned with negroes, agents of the Freedman's Bureau lording it with negro soldiers over the people and trampling the laws under their feet. Truly, in freeing the negro, we have most effectually enslaved ourselves.

The President on Negro Suffrage.

By some unaccountable mistake or oversight, a large portion of the telegraph dispatches due us on Wednesday night, did not come to hand. The delayed dispatches embraced the remarks of the President to the negro committee, headed by Fred. Douglass. We copy his speech in full into our columns to-day. It will be found intensely interesting, and will command universal attention. It will be seen that the President is not disposed to make any compromise on the subject of extending the right of suffrage to negroes. He is inexorably opposed to the policy, and presents a series of irrefutable and unanswerable arguments against it. Nothing more clear, cogent or conclusive on the subject has yet appeared. He almost satisfied the darkies themselves, that they ought not to have the right to vote. We hope that none of our readers will fail to give the speech an attentive perusal.

Col. John D. Morris.

We were much pleased to meet our gallant and social friend, Col. John D. Morris, of Christian county, in our sanctum yesterday, though we regretted to learn that he was brought here under arrest by the United States Marshal on a charge of treason. Heretofore, in the history of nations, the pardon of the chief executive officer has been regarded both in law and in fact, as a complete amnesty for the offenses for which it is given; but such does not seem to be the case in Kentucky. Col. Morris was pardoned by the President in August last, yet he is now seized in his home, in a remote part of the State, and dragged summarily to Louisville. Why is this? Can anybody explain? Has not the President a sufficient force under his command to enforce his decrees? Has Mr. Seward forgotten how to touch that bell? Surely not. Then we protest against the persecution of men who are as loyal in the eye of the law as any in the land, and this disregard of the executive pardon.

Colonel Morris was a Confederate officer, it is true, and served gallantly during the war; but, with the President's pardon in his pocket, he is no more liable for that than he is for having been a member of the Congress of the Republic of Texas when it was an independent nation. Since he received his pardon we are personally cognizant of the fact that his "walk and conversation" have been all that the Government could possibly have desired, and that he has not given the slightest cause of offense. Colonel Morris was, we believe, a member of the Convention which framed the present Constitution of the State, and is as widely known for his clear head and generous heart, as for his genial spirit and the affability of his manner. We wish him a speedy deliverance from his present troubles.

☞ The Mississippi and its tributaries are at present very low. The telegraph brings up news of a number of steamboats being aground at various points, mostly south of Memphis.

Thrilling Scene in the Cirque Napoleon—A Lioness on the Rampage.

[Paris Correspondence of the London Express.]

An unprecedented scene occurred at the Cirque Napoleon on Monday night, during the performance of Mr. Batty, the successor of Van Amburg, who is now exhibiting in Paris. The moment he entered the wild beasts' cage, the lioness was observed to be in a terrible rage. The lions were also roaring and jumping about, and Mr. Batty seemed to have lost his usual influence over them. The public, fearing to see him torn in pieces, cried "Go out, go out!" Mr. Batty took the advice and cautiously withdrew, walking backwards. The cause of the extraordinary commotion was soon ascertained. A few moments before the commencement of the performance the lioness had given birth to a cub, which was thought to be an only son. The young lion was taken away from her and given to a bitch to suckle; but just as Batty entered the cage the lioness unexpectedly produced a second young one, and the lions wanted to eat it—a propensity said to be very common with wild beasts when in a state of captivity. The fury of the lioness in defense of her offspring, and the ferocious attitude of her companions in the cage, produced an extraordinary panic among the spectators, and several ladies fainted. After a short pause Batty contrived to separate the lioness from the cub, and the latter, about the size of a cat, was held up by the nape of the neck for the inspection of the company.

THE CONQUERED BANNER.

Furl that banner, for 'tis weary,
Round its staff 'tis drooping dreary;
Furl it, fold it, it is best,
For there's not a man to wave it,
And there's not a sword to save it,
In the blood which heroes gave it,
And its foes now scorn and brave it:
Furl it, hide it, let it rest.

Take that banner down, 'tis tattered,
Broken is its shaft and shattered,
And the valiant hearts are scattered,
Over whom it it fluttered high:
Oh, 'tis hard for us to fold it,
Hard to think there's none to hold it,
Hard that those who once unrolled it
Now must furl it with a sigh.

Furl that banner, furl it sadly,
Once ten thousands hailed it gladly,
And ten thousands wildly, madly
Swore it would forever wave—
Swore that foeman's sword could never
Hearts like theirs entwined dissever—
Swore that flag should float forever
O'er their freedom or their grave.

Furl it, for the hands that grasped it
And the hearts that fondly clasped it,
Cold and dead are lying low;
And that banner, it is trailing,
While around it sounds the wailing
Of its people in their woe;
For tho' conquered they adore it,
Love the cold, dead hands that bore it;
Pardon those who trailed and tore it,
And, oh, wildly they deplore it,
Now to furl and fold it so.

Furl that banner—true, 'tis gory,
Yet 'tis wreathed around with glory,
And 'twill live in song and story,
Though its folds are in the dust;
For its fame on brightest pages,
Penned by poets and by sages,
Shall go sounding down the ages,
Furl its folds though now we must.

Furl that banner, softly, slowly,
Treat it gently—it is holy,
For it droops above the dead—
Touch it not, unfold it never,
Let it droop, there furled forever,
For its people's hopes are dead

Further Particulars of the Explosion of the Carter.

[From the New Albany Ledger, 9th.]

From second engineer W. J. Akin, of the W. R. Carter, who arrived at his home in this city this morning, we have some additional particulars of the terrible disaster to the steamer W. R. Carter.

Mr. Akin was not on watch at the time of the explosion, but was asleep in his room in the texas. By the force of the explosion he was thrown from his bed to the guards of the boiler deck, falling near the ice chest, forward of the wheel. He was considerably bruised and stunned, but upon recovering his presence of mind, and discovering that the boat was on fire, he seized a mattress, threw it overboard, and intended to follow and save himself on it. It was immediately taken possession of by another person already in the water. Mr. Akin then took a door-shutter, and went overboard with it. After being in the water for more than half an hour, he was picked up and saved. The explosion tore off all his clothing except a portion of his undershirt. His escape from death was truly miraculous.

Mr. Akin informs us that the boilers of the Carter were never in better apparent condition—free from scales—or in better working order than on this trip. He says that the day before the explosion occurred, he remarked this fact to first engineer Reuben Townsend, who concurred in all he said.

Mr. Townsend, before his death, stated to Mr. Akin that the boat was carrying one hundred and twenty pounds of steam at the time of the explosion, and no more. He also stated that he knew there was plenty of water in the boilers, as they had been tried only a few minutes before the accident. Mr. Townsend further stated that he could not account for the accident by any other theory than that of the hydroelectrical element which it is known to all scientific engineers is generated in all steam boilers. Mr. Akin and Mr. Townsend are both positive as to the good condition of the boilers, and Mr. Townsend asserted almost with his dying breath, that there was not a pressure of over one hundred and twenty pounds of steam upon the boilers when the explosion occurred, and the boat running much slower than usual. Those who personally knew Mr. Townsend will not for a moment hesitate in accepting his statement as true. And Mr. Akin's corroboration of it, will add weight to its truth.

At the time of the explosion, Mr. Townsend and Mr. Charles Evans of this city, a striker, were standing together on the larboard foot-box, talking. Mr. Evans was never seen afterwards. Mr. Townsend was blown back among the cylinder timbers, and terribly scalded on the arms, legs, face, head and back. He managed to extricate himself before the fire reached him, and took refuge in the life-boat, whence he was rescued and sent to Vicksburg and placed in the hospital. He died about twenty-four hours after being placed in the hospital. He did not regard himself as mortally injured, and had told Mr. Akin not half an hour before his death, that he felt much better. He was then sitting up in bed, but soon afterward laid down, fell asleep, and awoke in that eternity we must all explore.

Mr. Akin informs us that there were not less than two hundred souls upon the Carter. Of this number not over seventy are known to be saved, so that not less than one hundred and thirty persons perished by the disaster. The sights witnessed by the survivors were full of horror. On the forecastle, driven there by the encroachments of the fiery element, were huddled twenty or twenty-five persons. There were bales of hay and cotton and the stage planks on the forecastle, affording means for the preservation of them all. They were terror-stricken, however, and one by one leaped into the river and perished. More persons lost their lives by drowning than by scalding or otherwise.

A young man named Draper, from Ellettsville, Monroe county, was aboard the Carter. He was on his way to Vicksburg to take charge of an engine in a manufacturing establishment. He was not seen after the explosion, and was doubtless among the lost.

Aaron Scolbey, a striker, was not seen after the accident, and was doubtless instantly killed.

It was believed by Mr. Townsend, and is also believed by Mr. Akin, that it was the two middle boilers that let go. They went out forward cutting away the forward part of the texas and pilot house.

THE W. R. CARTER EXPLOSION—FURTHER AND INTERESTING PARTICULARS.

[From the Memphis Bulletin, 7th.]

Mr. J. B. Pancoast, mate of the ill-fated steamer, came up passenger yesterday on the steamer Atlantic. In answer to our questions as to what he saw of the Carter explosion, he said: "I was up in the pilot house with the pilots at the time, and heard something like the crash of thunder, fell to the lower deck amid the rubbish and ruins. I managed to escape, made my way up in the cabin, gathered my little boy in my left arm, made my way aft. I saw about twenty-five negroes and deck passengers being lowered in the yawl, who, on reaching the water, were about to cut loose from the wreck, and I ordered my men to prevent its being done, and catching the derrick in my right hand I slid down into the yawl, and begged the negroes and deck passengers to get out and hold on to the sides of the yawl, that we might take five ladies aboard who were near by. They in reply demanded to be taken ashore, which was accordingly done. While making for the shore we picked up the pilot and a passenger on the way. The pilot took the steering oar, and on landing them we returned to the wreck, rescued and took, as well as I remember, about ten others to the shore. We returned a third time, picked up Mr. Hunt, of Greenville, Miss., Mr. Hefner of Cincinnati, the chambermaid and others, all of whom we took to the Evening Star which was approaching. The sounding boat, which would have held about forty persons, had been cut loose and taken ashore by some three or four persons where they left it, containing a dead body, all of whom were unknown to me. Had the sounding boat been used as the yawl, no doubt most all who had escaped death at first would have been saved. All I can say of the scene is, that it was horrible beyond description."

Having rendered all the assistance possible, to those in the water, the Evening Star passed up and down both sides of the river, taking all who could be found on each shore, providing at once, in every manner possible, for their comfort and accommodation, and taking them to Vicksburg.

It is said that Jesse McKaffey, the carpenter, by his presence of mind and noble effort of daring, was instrumental in saving the lives of five ladies.

ANOTHER OIL STRIKE.—We understand that a good vein of oil was struck a few days since on the Cheatham farm, on the west fork of Crocus, in Cumberland county, by the Franklin Oil Company of this city. The depth reached was 327 feet.

☞ The Unitarians have subscribed $121,-429 39 for the endowment of Antioch College. In Providence alone the sum of $39,-500 was raised.

☞ Rev. Isaac Owen, a popular and well-known Methodist preacher, formerly of Indiana, died recently in California.

☞ At Liskeard, in Cornwall, they say:

"The south wind always brings wet weather,
The north wind wet and cold together;
The west wind always brings us rain,
The east wind blows it back again.
If the sun in red should set,
The next day surely will be wet;
If the sun should set in gray,
The next will be a rainy day."

The Ohio Tobacco Growers and the Revenue Commissioners.

The following paper, addressed to the Revenue Commissioners, was drawn up by Gen. Schenck, and signed by all the Ohio Representatives:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 3.

"*Hon. David A. Wells, Hon. S. Colwell, and Hon. S. S. Hayes, U. S. Revenue Commissioners, New York:*

GENTLEMEN—The tobacco growers of the West complain that the present tax on manufactured tobacco is unjust and oppressive, and unfairly discriminates against them, and in favor of the tobacco growers of Connecticut and Cuba. The undersigned, Representatives in Congress from Ohio, learning from your report that you seek to make yourself practically acquainted with this subject of inquiry by personal inspection, and by putting yourself in direct communication with representative business men from every section of the country, and hearing that with this view you have already visited Connecticut and taken the testimony of the growers of and operators in her tobacco, beg to remind you that by the official returns of 1864 there were planted in Ohio 42,202 acres of tobacco, and 370,212,-222 pounds produced, and to ask that you visit Ohio and take the testimony of the representative men of that important branch of industry in the West."

SALE OF FINE STOCK.—We understand that Messrs. Peter & Tewmey made a sale a few days since of some of their fine mule stock. They disposed of nine head, averaging $265 each. They were indeed a fine lot of mules, and the price obtained is fully equal to prices before the war.

Last week, Peter Gentry, Esq., of our county, made a sale of seventy-nine head of aged mules to Messrs. Lyle & Railey, at an average price of $160. This stock, we presume, is intended for the Southern market.—[Danville Advocate, 9th.

☞ Some returned "So-called" were joking a certain Fenian of our city on the wildness and impracticability of their scheme, viz: the independence of Ireland, when he, with the usual Irish wit, placed them all *hors du combat* by coolly replying, "that it was no matter if they (the Fenians) were whipped, they would not lose their negroes."—[Frankfort Yeoman.

☞ A lady in the market, laying her hand upon a joint of veal, said, "I think this veal is not quite so white as usual." "Put on your gloves, madam," was the reply, "and you will think differently." Not bad for a butcher. It was needless to say that the veal was ordered [illegible]

FROM WASHINGTON.

Cattle Disease in England on the Increase—Cholera Still at Malta—Paymasters to be Mustered Out—Freedmen's Bureau Bill to be Returned to Congress—The Man with the Gray Beard Denounces Senator Wade.

[Special Dispatch to the Louisville Courier.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10—P. M.

An authoritative contradiction is furnished that the statement that the recent conference of Generals here had under consideration the question of trying Jefferson Davis by a military commission.

Dispatches received at the State Department to-day, from our consuls at Liverpool and London, state that the cattle disease is increasing with great rapidity. The consul at Liverpool says that it will not take many days to rid the entire kingdom of cattle at the present rate of deaths. Ten thousand new cases had broken out during the week ending January 29. The number of cattle which have died thus far of the disease is 40,000.

Our consul at Malta writes that the cholera has not permanently abandoned the place. The physicians think it will increase in the spring.

On Tuesday, fifteen additional paymasters will be mustered out of the service, there being no longer any use for them.

Several thousand more applications to witness the memorial services to-morrow have been made than there are seats.

The Evening Star says that the President is opposed to the bill just passed extending the operation of the Freedmen's Bureau to Maryland, Missouri and Delaware, and that he will return it to Congress to be modified in accordance with his views.

The man with the gray beard, who so fearfully frightened and shattered the nerves of Senator Wade, a few weeks ago, an account of which was given in the papers at the time, comes out with a card, in which he gives a decidedly different version of the affair from that furnished by the alarmed Senator.

The mysterious individual, whose name is W. L. Fleming, says: "Now I wish to say that I am the mysterious stranger in gray—that my name is Fleming, and the story put forth by Senator Wade in regard to that interview is, from beginning to end, a fabrication of the Honorable Senator, being as ridiculously false as it is untrue."

There will be no business transacted in either House on Monday, as the memorial ceremonies will take place at noon, after which both Houses will adjourn for the day.

FROM CINCINNATI.

Great Democratic Triumph in Kentucky—A Clean Sweep—Benton and Baker Badly Beaten—Bayonet Elections Rebuked—The Result Explained—Man Stabbed—The Fenians—Suicide of Colonel Richard Whitaker at Shelbyville, Kentucky, &c., &c.

[Special Dispatch to the Louisville Courier.]

CINCINNATI, Feb. 11—P. M.

In the special elections held yesterday in the Senatorial Districts of Kenton, and of Campbell and Pendleton counties, Kentucky, the Democracy were successful.

John C. Carlisle was elected over Benton, in Kenton, by 540 majority, and Pearson was elected over Baker, in the Senatorial District composed of Campbell and Pendleton, by a small majority. Two Democratic Representatives were also elected.

The gain for the Democracy was heavy. The majorities of Benton and Baker in August last were in the neighborhood of 1,000 votes.

The Cincinnati Commercial of to-day says that the Radical uproar in Congress and the Freedmen's Bureau in Kentucky will account for the change.

The Enquirer brings forth its jubilant rooster, and says it is conclusively proved that the reign of the bayonet in Kenton county at the last election cheated the Democracy out of at least 1,500 votes.

A man named Segers was stabbed seven times, in a drinking saloon in the Fourth Ward, last night, and will probably die.

The O'Mahoney Fenians will have a grand demonstration, at Mozart Hall, Tuesday night. George Francis Train will speak.

Col. Richard Whitaker, late of the 6th Kentucky infantry, and brother of Major General Whitaker, committed suicide Saturday morning, at Shelbyville, Ky., by cutting his throat, in a fit of temporary insanity. He was a young man, 26 years of age, widely known and much respected.

FROM ST. LOUIS.

Great Fire—Immense Destruction of Property—Discharge of Alleged Boat Burners.

[Special Dispatch to the Louisville Courier.]

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 12—P. M.

The extensive ear house for sheltering the cars at the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad Depot, on the Illinois shore, opposite this city, caught fire between four and five o'clock this morning and was entirely consumed. A car house, tank house, ice house, repair shops, and sixteen cars were all destroyed. The loss is estimated at twenty-five to thirty thousand dollars, which is fully insured in Cincinnati offices.

General Coolbaugh, the swindling General, has been sent to New York on a requisition of Governor Fenton.

It is stated that three hundred Kentucky negro families will emigrate to Lagrange, Mo., in the spring.

Parks and Lapielle, alleged boat burners, have been discharged from custody by order of the War Department.

FROM CHICAGO.

A Great Piece of Villainy—Great Fire Chase at Kalamazoo, Michigan—Mississippi Lumber Trade—The Markets.

[Special Dispatch to the Louisville Courier.]

CHICAGO, Feb. 12—P. M.

A young woman, on Saturday, was dragged in a photographic establishment for the villainous purpose of procuring indecent pictures. So much of the drug was given to her that she now lives in a critical condition, and is unable to speak. The operator of the gallery was taken before a Justice, who, strange to say, released him with a fine of $15. This so incensed a number of citizens that the gallery was soon discovered to be on fire, but the engines were too prompt for the incendiaries. The operator has been re-arrested, and is committed for examination.

A great fox hunt takes place at Kalamazoo next Wednesday and Thursday. Many Canadians will be on hand, and also a pack of sixty hounds. The affair will terminate with a grand barbecue of wild game.

A special from St. Paul says the lumbermen here had a very good season and will have a big run this spring.

Receipts of hogs to-day—five and dressed, 6,700; dressed hogs quiet, closing at $10 90 to $11. Provisions almost nominal—a small lot of country packed mess pork sold at $26 25; extra prime, 200 bbls, at $19. Bulk meats dull and sales small—a lot of 20,000 rough sides, fully cured, 15½c, loose; Cumberland middlings, 15¾c, packed. Steam lard dull and drooping; buyers generally refusing to pay over 16½c; kettle lard sells readily at 17c, with good demand in Eastern and Southern markets. Green meats dull, and sales light, at 16¾c for hams rubbed in salt. Flour quiet. Wheat market quiet and easier; sales No. 1 spring, closing at $1 17½@1 17¾c; No. 2 spring, in regular houses, is selling at 77½@83c. Corn unchanged; sales of No. 1, at 57c, No. 2, at 54c; rejected, at 52@53½c. Oats quiet, at 29¾@29¾c for No. 1. Sales of No. 1 rye at 50c. Barley nominal.

FROM COLUMBUS, OHIO.

Legislative Proceedings—Gubernatorial Appointments.

[Special Dispatch to the Louisville Courier.]

COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 12—P. M.

In the Legislature to-day the Democratic members of the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures made a minority report in favor of a resolution for redneing the excise tax on whisky. The majority report for indefinite postponement was agreed to.

Gov. Cox has appointed Col. G. Holland, of Cambridge, to represent Ohio in the Gettysburg Cemetery Commission.

Virginia Legislature and President Johnson.

A Very Interesting Interview.

Address of the Committee.

POSITION OF VIRGINIA.

REPLY OF THE PRESIDENT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.

This afternoon a committee from the Senate and House of Delegates of the State of Virginia called upon President Johnson for the purpose of presenting him with the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia. The following named gentlemen constituted the committee from the Senate: Messrs. E. Keen, A. S. Gray and Dale Carter. The following represented the House of Delegates: Messrs. J. B. Baldwin, James Marshall, A. R. Gratton, A. G. Pendleton and Wm. T. Jones. They are all gentlemen of acknowledged ability, and it is claimed that they fully represent the State geographically and politically, being from the north, south and east, and West Virginia, and every shade of past and present politics. James Marshall, a venerable looking gentlemen, is a nephew of the celebrated Chief Justice Marshall. Messrs. Marshall, Gration and Judge Jaynes are among the ablest lawyers of the State. Mr. Baldwin, Speaker of the House of Delegates, as chairman of the committee, presented the resolutions, and delivered the following address in behalf of the committee:

Speech of Speaker Baldwin.

MR. PRESIDENT: We are a committee of Senators and Delegates, sent to present to you, in person, certain resolutions which have received the unanimous approval of the General Assembly of Virginia.

We come as representatives sent by one of the States of this Union, to confer with our constitutional President in regard to matters affecting the common Government, and, therefore, of interest to all the States and to all the people. We come to you, Mr. President, for the reason that you recognize our common interest in the Government under which we live, and because, thus far, we have been denied the constitutional means and of communication by which other States and other people make known their opinions, purposes and feelings in the councils of the nation.

In declaring that the people of Virginia and their representatives accept and abide by the results of the late contest, and that they intend in good faith to meet all the obligations thereby incurred, the General Assembly expressed a sentiment and a purpose which has been uniformly recognized by our people individually and *en masse* and in regard to which there is no hesitation or division in all Virginia. Chief among the the results thus accepted is the universal conviction that the union of these States is an established fact, and that the future of our people is indissolubly bound up for weal or for woe with the success or failure of the Government of the United States. We recognize the Government as our Government; its Constitution as our Constitution; the duties it requires our duties, and the rights it promises our rights. Another great result, alike accepted by our people is the final overthrow of the institution of slavery. This has been compelled by a constitutional amendment, the leading force of which is usually admitted, for although we are not represented in the Congress by which it was proposed, the failure to be so represented was our own choice.

The condition of the freedmen among us and the policy to be adopted with regard to them will be recognized by you as calling for the exercise of the highest function of the statesmen and the best feeling of the Christian philanthropist.

The General Assembly of Virginia is engaged earnestly in the consideration of these subjects, and in anticipation of the results of their labors, we can only say that whatever policy is adopted will be addressed in good faith and with kindly feelings to the improvement of the physical, intellectual and moral condition of our freedmen. You may, as statesmen, and will readily believe, that the feelings of our people towards those freedmen are those of kindness, sympathy and good will, and that to treat them with harshness or injustice is opposed as much to our feelings as it is to our interests and our sense of right. The policy pursued by you, Mr. President, toward Virginia and States in like condition has its strong foundation in broad and comprehensive views of constitutional right and of national policy, and must look for its ultimate success to the conservative sense of justice of all the States. It is due, however, to you and to our people to assure you, that when our General Assembly declares the approval of that policy by the people of Virginia, they expressed what each one of this committee here present knows to be a living truth. It happens that your position places you between us and a threatened danger, and the General Assembly have but given voice to the real feeling of our people when they tender to you the warmest thanks of Virginia for the firm stand you have taken against the facility with which it is proposed to change the fundamental law. We would not, however, state as the only object of the course you are taking that it affords to us protection in a time of trouble. It is as a defender of the general Constitution that you deserve and command the confidence and support of the people of the United States, and it will be hereafter remembered as your highest claim to the character of a Republican statesman that under all the trying circumstances by which you are surrounded you have not only proclaimed the Constitution of the United States to be the supreme law of this land, but have defended it alike from violation and from innovation.

The following is the response of the President to the Virginia delegation:

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S REPLY.

The President replied:

GENTLEMEN: To the resolutions you have just presented to me, and the clear, and forcible, and concise remarks which you have made in explanation of the position of Virginia, I shall not attempt to make a formal speech, but simply enter into a plain conversation in regard to the condition of things and where we stand as a people to what we may say. Permit me first to tender you my thanks for this visit, and next, to express the gratification I feel on meeting so many intelligent, responsible and respectable gentlemen of Virginia, bearing to me the sentiments which have been expressed in the resolutions of your Legislature, and in the remarks which accompany them. They are, so far as they refer to the Constitution of the country, the sentiments and principles embraced in that charter of the Government. The preservation of the Union has been, from my entrance into public life, one of my cardinal tenets. At the very inclipiency of this rebellion I set my face against the dissevera tion of the union of the States.

I do not make this allusion for the purpose of bringing up anything which has transpired, which may be regarded as of an unkind or unpleasant character, but I believe then as I believe now, and as you have most unmistakably indicated, that the security and protection of the rights of all the people were to be found in the United and not out of it. Upon this conviction I based my opposition to the efforts which were made to destroy the Union.

When the people send such men in good faith, they are entitled to a representation through them. In going into the recent rebellion, or insurrection against the Government of the United States, you erred, and in returning and resuming your relations with the Federal Government, I am free to say, that all the responsible positions and places ought to be conferred, distinctly and clearly, on men who are loyal.

If there were only 5,000 men in a State, or a less number, but sufficient to take charge of the political machinery of the State, those 5,000 men or the lesser number are entitled to it. If all the rest should be otherwise included, I look upon it as being fundamental that the exercise of political power should be confined to loyal men, and I regard it as implied in doctrines laid down in these resolutions, and in the eloquent address by which they have been accompanied.

I may say that furthermore, after having passed through a great struggle in which we have been engaged we should be placed upon much more acceptable grounds in resuming relations to the General Government if unmistakably and unquestionably loyal men were presented to fill the places of power. This is being done, I feel the day is not distant. I speak confidently in reference to the great mass of our American people when I say they will determine that this Union should be insada whole, and the great right of representation in the councils of the nation be acknowledged.

Gentlemen, that is the fundamental principle. No taxation without representation was one of the principles which carried us through the revolution. This great principle will hold good yet, and if we but perform our duty, it we but comply with the spirit of the resolutions presented to us today, our own people will maintain and sustain the great doctrines upon which our Government was inaugurated.

It can be done, as it will be done, and I think that if the effort be fairly and fully made with forbearance, with prudence, with discretion, and with wisdom the end is not far distant. It seems apparent that from every consideration the best policy which could be adopted at present would be a restoration of those States and of the Government upon correct principles. We have some foreign difficulties, but the moment it can be announced that the Union of the States is complete, and that we have resumed our career of prosperity and greatness, at the very instant, almost, all our foreign difficulties will be settled. There is no power upon earth which will dare to have a controversy or a ruptnre with the Government of the United States.

Under such circumstances those States can be fully restored, the era for circulation of the National currency, which is thought by some to be inflated to a very great extent, will be enlarged, the number of persons through whose hands it is to pass will be increased, the quantity of commerce in which it is to be employed as a medium of exchange will be enlarged, and then it will begin to approximate what we all desire, a specie standard.

If all the States were restored, if peace and order reigned throughout the land, and industrial pursuits and the old avocations of peace were again resumed, the day would not be far distant when we could put in the commerce of the world $250,000,000 or $300,000,000 worth of cotton, tobacco, and various products of our Southern States, which would constitute in part a basis of this currency. Then instead of coin being invested, we should reverse the position and put the base at the bottom as it should be.

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Lincoln Congressional Testimonial—The Proceedings at the Capitol—President and Cabinet Present—Ceremonies of the Day.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12, P. M.—The flags over the public buildings, including the Capitol, are at half mast to-day. At ten o'clock the doors leading to the rotunda of the Capitol were opened to those to whom invitations had been extended by the presiding officers of the two Houses of Congress, and to those holding tickets of admission to the galleries. The hall of the House of Representatives was opened for admission at 11 o'clock, and the seats assigned to them.

The President of the United States was seated in front of the Speaker's table. The Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States occupied seats near the President, on the right of the Speaker's table. The heads of Departments, with the diplomatic corps, occupied seats near the President, and on the left of the Speaker's table, officers of the army and navy, who, by name, have received the thanks of Congress, occupied seats on the same side, opposite to those on the right of the Speaker's table. The Representatives occupied seats on either side of the hall, in rear of those invited.

The rows of seats on either side of the main aisle, for the Senators, were, in addition to the above mentioned, occupied by assistant heads of Departments, Governors of States and Territories, the Mayors of Washington and Georgetown, the Chief Justices and Judges of the Court of Claims, the Chief Justice, the head of the Bureaus in the Departments, and others.

When Lieutenant General Grant entered the gallery with the ladies, he was greeted with applause. The army and navy officers were in uniform. The diplomatic corps appeared in citizens' dress.

The House was called to order at 12 o'clock by the Speaker, who, after a prayer by the Rev. Mr. Boynton, laid before them a letter from Secretary Seward, addressed to the Speaker, making his acknowledgements for the invitation to be present on this occasion, but seriously regretting that the state of his health forbids his attendance on the interesting national ceremonies. The Cabinet, excepting Mr. Seward, were present.

Senator Doolittle conducted the orator of the day to a seat at table of the desk of the House.

When the Senators, the President and his Cabinet, and the Supreme Court entered the Hall those on the floor rose to their feet and stood until the former were all seated. The Marine Band in the rear of the reporters' gallery performed a solemn air. Then the Rev. Dr. Boynton, the chaplain of the House, delivered a prayer, after which the Hon. Lafayette S. Foster, President of the Senate *pro tem.*, called the House to order, and, in a few pertinent remarks, introduced Hon. Geo. Bancroft, who delivered the memorial address.

The following is the concluding portion of the address:

In his character, Lincoln was through and through a man. He is the first native of the region west of the Alleghenies to attain the highest station, and how happy it is that the man who was brought forward and was the natural champion and first friend of that region, should have been of unblemished purity in private life, a good son, a kind husband, a most affectionate father, and a man so gentle to all. Douglas, his rival, said of him: "Lincoln is the honestest man I ever knew." The habits of his mind were those of meditation and inward thought rather than action. He excelled in logical statements more than executive ability. He reasoned clearly; no effective judgment was good, and his purposes were fixed; but like the Hamlet of his only poet, his will was tardy in action; and for this reason, and not from humility or feeling, he sometimes deplored that the duty which developed upon him had not fallen to the lot of another. He never sought to electrify the public by taking an advantageous position with a banner of opinion, but rather studied to move forward compactly, escaping no enemy in front, and relying on that the course of his administration might have been explained as the calculating policy of the shrewd and watchful politician, had there not been seen behind it a fixed principle, a firm conviction, a deep determined his purpose, and grew more immense with every year, consuming his life by its energy. As the sum of all, the hand of Lincoln raised the feelings of the American people. He was the hero of the war, and therefore, as the result, of a new era of Republicanism. The disturbances of the country grew out of anything but Republicanism, but out of slavery, which is a part of the system of hereditary superiority and usurpation of domestic anomaly, opens to the renovated nation a career of unthought of dignity and glory. Henceforth our country has a moral unity as the land of free labor. The party for slavery and the party against slavery are no more, and all are merged in the party of Union and freedom. States which would have left us are not brought back as conquered states, for then we should hold them only by right of force, but as free States, and maintained. They come to their rightful places under the Constitution as original States, and inseparable members of the States. We build monuments to the dead, but no monuments to victory. We respect the examples of the Romans, who, moreover, on conquered lands raised the emblem of triumph, and our Generals are not to be classed in the herd of vulgar conquerors, but are of the school of Timoleon, and William of Orange. Bigelow, stood like them, have used the sword only to give peace to their country and restore her to her place in the great assembly of the nations. Our meeting closes in the hope that our people will now begin to live according to the laws of reason and to republicanism, is entrenched in our continent.

The orator was frequently interrupted by applause, especially in those parts which he emphasized, and in which, while speaking of Great Britain, he said, let a bill of reform remove the worn out part of a class, and infuse new life into the British constitution by confiding rightful powers to the people, and we cannot be indifferent to a country that produces statesmen like Cobden and Bright; but the last anchor of peace is that of the working class of England who suffered most from the civil war, but while they broke their diminished bread in sorrow, manifested to us generous sympathy.

The orator's contrast of Palmerston with Lincoln—the former after a few years hardly to be noticed by side of the graves of Essex and Chatham, but the latter to be remembered through all time by his countrymen and by the people of the world—was received with manifestations of delight. Sir Frederick Bruce being an attentive listener. But the hyperbole was more extended and emphatic when Mr. Bancroft explained: "The Kingdom of Mexico must rise or fall."

Those parts of the address referring to the Emancipation Proclamation and the utterances of President Lincoln in that Convention in favor of freedom, were received with earnest responses by the vast assembly, as was the allusion to the negro soldiery, including friendship of Russia and the act of China in closing her ports against the war ships and privateers of the seditious.

Mr. Stockel, the Russian Minister, was evidently pleased by the compliment to his own Government. The other foreign ministers preserved an appearance of stern gravity. The allusion to Mr. Lincoln's wish, only three days before his death, that the elective franchise were conferred on the very intelligent of the colored men, and on those of them who served our cause as soldiers, but should be done by the States themselves, and that he never harbored the thought of exacting it from a people as a condition precedent to their recognition, was greeted with applause, as was also the remark that "appointing the head of the armies, he followed the manifest preference of Congress."

Many eyes were at this point directed towards Gen. Grant. On the conclusion of the oration, which occupied more than two and a half hours in the delivery, there was a spontaneous outburst of applause, clapping of hands, and the waving of hats and handkerchiefs. Every sentence of it seemed to find a prompt response in the audiory.

Mr. Bancroft was soon surrounded by a large number of distinguished persons, and received their congratulations. The ceremonies were closed by a brief prayer by the Rev. Dr. Gray, Chaplain of the Senate, who pronounced the benediction. The company withdrew when the Speaker called the House to order.

Mr. Washburne, of Ill., offered a joint resolution, which was adopted, tendering the thanks of Congress to the Hon. Geo. Bancroft, for an appropriate address, delivered by him, on the life and services of Abraham Lincoln, and requesting him to furnish a copy of the same for publication.

The Chairman of the Committee on Memorial Exercises was directed to communicate to Mr. Bancroft the foregoing resolutions, and receive an answer thereto, and report the same to both branches of Congress.

The House then adjourned.

The Senate, after returning to its chamber, unanimously passed a resolution, on motion of Mr. Foote, that 10,000 copies of the memorial address on the life and character of Abraham Lincoln, delivered at the request of both houses to-day, by Hon. George Bancroft, be printed for the use of the Senate.

Also unanimously passed the concurrent resolution of the House above mentioned with reference to the same subject. Senator Foote and Representative Washburne, the chairman of the Joint Committee, will therefore wait upon Mr. Bancroft for the purpose indicated.

Kentucky Legislature.

SENATE.

FRIDAY, Feb. 9, 1866.

Mr. Gorin—Judiciary—A bill to amend an act to incorporate the Barren County Railroad Company. Passed.

Same—A bill to authorize the Barren County Court to subscribe stock to the Barren County Railroad. Passed.

Same—A bill to amend the charter of the Southern Mutual Life Insurance Company. Passed.

Bills to incorporate the following oil and mining companies were passed: Edmonson county, Fountain Run, Scottsville, Kirkland Farm, Greasy Creek and Cumberland River, Kentucky and Oldham, Rock House Creek.

Mr. Morrow—A House bill to incorporate the Louisville and Henderson People's Line Packet Company, with an amendment. Passed.

Same—A bill for the benefit of the stockholders and owners of the Lexington and Big Sandy Railroad Company. Passed.

Mr. Riffe—Religion—A House bill to prevent shooting on the Sabbath in Oldham county. Amended so as to make the bill general and then passed.

Mr. Bruner—Revised Statutes—A bill to incorporate the Belmont and Nelson Iron Company. Passed.

A House bill for the benefit of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, at Danville. [Appropriates the additional annual sum of $5,000]. Passed.

Mr. Dudley—A bill to incorporate the Louisville, Mills City, and Colorado Mining Company. Rejected.

Same—House bills to incorporate the Beargrass, Clear Creek, and Colorado Mining Company; the Enterprise Gold and Silver Mining Company, of Colorado; the Kentucky and Colorado Silver and Gold Mining Company; the Seaton Mining Company; the Crystal, &c., Mining Company; the Hibernia Mining Company; the Midas Mining Company; and several other similar companies, were all rejected.

Mr. Cochran—A bill to amend article 1, chapter 64, of the Revised Statutes, with an amendment, which was adopted; and the bill, as amended, passed—yeas, 20; nays, 10.

Mr. Wright—Agriculture and Manufactures—A bill to regulate the inspection and sale of tobacco in the town of Lebanon. Passed.

Mr. Wm. Johnson—Circuit Courts—A bill to amend an act to establish a criminal court in the Ninth Judicial District. Passed.

Mr. J. J. Landram—County Courts—A House bill for the benefit of the town of Greensburg. Passed.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 6th inst., a bill entitled an act authorizing the refunding of money paid into the State Treasury, on account of the sale of runaway slaves, sold since the 1st day of January, 1861, by order of court, was voted upon, and 47 voted in the affirmative, and 37 in the negative. The Speaker not being satisfied as to whether it required a majority of all elected to the House to pass the bill, reserved his decision until he could investigate the matter. On yesterday he decided that the bill did not require a constitutional majority, and therefore the bill is passed.

BILLS REPORTED.—Mr. Thomas—Corporations—To incorporate the Louisville Market Association. Passed.

Mr. Corbett—Select Committee—To repeal an act for the protection of sheep in this Commonwealth. Passed.

Mr. Mershon offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz:

WHEREAS, Our State penitentiary was never intended as a place of speculation, either for the State or for individuals, but as a place of punishment for those who violate the laws of the States, and, whereas, it is the intention of the law to punish every man according to his crimes, and, whereas, under the present arrangement of the penitentiary, there is no distinction of crime, but the man who may have been guilty of manslaughter in sudden heat and passion is worked side by side and locked in the same cell with the forger, robber and horse thief; be it, therefore

Resolved, That the Committee on the Penitentiary be requested to examine into the expediency of classifying the convicts and putting them, according to their crime, and report to this House as soon as practicable, with such suggestions as to said classification as may seem best to them.

SPECIAL ORDER.—The House then took up the substitute offered by Mr. Varnon, to a Senate bill to repeal all laws authorizing the Governor of this Commonwealth to borrow money for military purposes.

Several amendments were offered, when the bill and amendments were recommitted to the Committee on Ways and Means, with instructions to report on Monday next, at 10 o'clock.

The House then took up the House bill, amended in the Senate, for the benefit of Margaret Carpenter, of Ballard county. Amendment concurred in and bill passed.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.—A House bill repealing and amending certain sections, articles and chapters of the Revised Statutes and session acts, approved since the adoption of the Revised Statutes, concerning slaves and free negroes.

Said bill reads as follows:

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky*, That sections, articles, and chapters of Revised Statutes and session Acts, hereinafter mentioned, be repealed or amended, as follows, to-wit:

1. That articles 1 and 2, of chapter 75, title "Patrols," Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

2. That section 1, of article 3, of chapter 83, Revised Statutes, and an article of session Acts, article 6, of same chapter, as requires the enlisting of slaves, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

3. That section 2, of article 2, of chapter 84, Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, amended by striking out the words "and slaves" after "men," and the words "and if a slave be whipped by order of a Justice of the peace, ten lashes."

4. That articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, of article 8, chapter 86, Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

5. That articles 1, 5 and 6, of chapter 87, Revised Statutes, and also that part of article 2, of same, relative to runaway slaves," approved December 6, 1851, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

6. That article 7, of chapter 93, Revised Statutes, be so amended as to make all negro courts and juries liable to the same punishment, and triable in the same manner as white persons, except for free negroes, except that sections 9, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 23 of said articles are repealed, and section 16 so amended as to apply to all negroes and mulattoes the same as if free.

7. That article 1, of chapter 95, Revised Statutes, be so amended as to make all negro courts and juries liable to the same punishment, and triable in the same manner as white persons, except for free negroes, except that sections 9, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 23 of said articles are repealed, and section 16 so amended as to apply to all negroes and mulattoes the same as if free.

8. That article 1, of chapter 96, Revised Statutes, "Runaways," is hereby repealed.

9. That section 1, of article 2, of chapter 97, Revised Statutes, "Patrols and Runaways," approved March 8, 1860, and all laws now in force allowing fees for arresting runaway slaves, be, and the same are hereby repealed.

10. That section 9, of article 1, of chapter 99, Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

11. That section 1, of article 1, of chapter 99, Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

12. That section 1, of article 2, of chapter 99, Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

13. That section 1, of article 3, of chapter 99, Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Fenian Meeting in Faneuil Hall.

Accident to a Railroad Train.

Reply of the Colored Delegation.

Speech of the Emperor of Mexico.

The President and the Colored Delegation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The following is published as the reply of the colored delegation to President Johnson, prepared after they had an interview yesterday with him:

MR. PRESIDENT—In consideration of a delicate sense of propriety, as well as your intimations of an indisposition to discuss or listen to a reply to the views you were pleased to express in your elaborate speech to-day, the undersigned would respectfully take this method of replying thereto, believing, as we do, that the views and opinions expressed in that address are entirely unsound and prejudicial to the highest interests of our race, as well as of our country, and we cannot do otherwise than expose the same, and as far as may be in our power arrest their dangerous influence.

It is not necessary, at this time, to call attention to more than two or three features of your remarkable address. The first point to which we feel especially bound to take exception is your attempt to found a policy opposed to our enfranchisement upon the alleged ground of an existing hostility on the part of the former slaves toward the poor white people of the South. We admit the existence of this hostility, and hold it is entirely reciprocal, but you obviously commit an error by drawing an argument from an incident of a state of slavery and making it a basis for a policy adapted to a state of freedom.

The hostility between the whites and blacks of the South is easily explained. It has its root and sap in the relation of slavery, and was incited on both sides by the cunning of slave masters. These masters secured their ascendency over both the poor whites and the blacks by putting enmity between them. They divided both to conquer each. There was no earthly reason why the blacks should not hate and dread the poor whites when in a state of slavery, for it was from this class their masters received their slave-catchers, slave-drivers and overseers. They were the men called on upon all occasions by masters when any fiendish outrage was to be committed upon the slave.

Now, sir, you cannot but perceive that the cause of this dread removed, the cause must be removed also. Slavery is abolished. The cause of antagonism is removed, and you must see that it is altogether illogical, putting new wines into old bottles, mending new garments with old clothes, to legislate form slaveholding and slave driving persons, for a people whom you have repeatedly declared your purpose to maintain in freedom.

Besides, if it ever were true, as you allege, the hostility of the blacks toward the poor whites must necessarily be the same in a state of freedom as in a state of slavery. In the name of Heaven, we reverentially ask, how can you, in view of your proffered desire to promote the welfare of the black man, deprive him of all means of defense and clothe him, whom you regard as his enemy, in the panoply of political power?

Can it be that you should recommend a policy which would arm the strong and cast down the defenseless? Can you, by any possibility or reasoning, regard this as just or wise? Experience proves that they are oftenest abused who can be abused with the greatest impunity. Men are whipped oftenest who are whipped easiest. Peace between races is not to be secured by degrading one race and exalting another—by giving power to one race and withholding it from another, but by maintaining a state of equal justice between all parties.

On the colonization theory that you were pleased to broach, very much could be said. It is impossible to suppress, in view of the usefulness of the black man in time of peace, as a laborer in the South, and in time of war, as a soldier at the North, a growing respect for his rights among the people, and his increasing adaptation to a high state of civilization in this his native land. There can come a time when he can be removed from the country without a terrible shock to its prosperity and peace.

Besides, the worst enemy of the nation should not cast upon its fair name a greater infamy than to suppose that negroes could be tolerated among them in a state of the most degrading slavery and opposition, and must be cast away and driven into exile in no other cause than having been freed from their chains. Signed—Geo. T. Downing, Jno. Jones, Wm. Whipper, Frederick Douglass, Lewis H. Douglass, and others.

From Texas.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 8.—Brownsville dates of the 2d inst. have been received.

General Wright arrived from Galveston on the first. Col. Brown succeeds Weitzel in command of the Rio Grande district. Col. J. G. Jenkins succeeds General Smith in command of the first division twenty-fifth corps.

United States provost marshals are busy arresting and disarming parties in Brownsville and neighborhood. Col. Reed Crawford's Adjutant, was arrested for complicity in the Bagdad affair. Capt. Sinclair, of the Liberal army, was arrested charged with violating the neutrality laws.

Cortinas and his forces left for parts unknown.

It is reported that before he left he received from Juarez the appointment of General-in-Chief of the Liberal army.

Four pieces of artillery were taken from Bagdad by the Liberals and brought to Clarksville. They were seized on the 1st and held by the United States Collector of Customs.

The French man-of-war Adonis has arrived off the mouth of the Rio Grande.

Two thousand French troops are expected on the Rio Grande.

An Aid-de-camp of Maximilian arrived at Matamoras on the 1st.

It is rumored that Canales was at Reynosa with a Liberal force; that Escabedo with another was besieging Monterey, and Mendez with another was besieging Tampico, none of which are believed at Brownsville.

From Canada.

TORONTO, C. W., Feb. 8.—Montreal and Toronto papers express satisfaction that the provincial delegates have not accepted the terms proposed for a continuation of the reciprocity treaty. The Globe this morning says: One happy result of the course adopted by the United States will be the speedy confederation of the provinces, the absolute necessity of which is now apparent. With the confederacy carried, an improvement of internal communication, the throwing open of lands to free settlement, the gradual reduction of customs, tariffs, the opening of new markets, a vigorous prosecution of our fishery enterprises, opening up of the Northwest, the commencement of an enlarged system of immigration, a wise revision of our system of banking and currency, the people of British America need not doubt that brighter prospects in the future are before them.

XXXIX Congress—First Session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.

SENATE.—Mr. Clark, of New Hampshire, introduced a bill, in addition to the several acts, to establish and amend the judicial system of the United States. Referred to the Judiciary Committee. It provides for ten Circuit Judges, as at present, the amount of salary left in blank, who shall take the following oath:

I do solemnly swear or affirm I will administer justice, without respect to persons, and do equal justice to all, and will in all things faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all duties incumbent on me as Circuit Judge, according to the best of my abilities and understanding of the Constitution.

The second section provides that the Circuit Court shall consist of, and be holden by, the Chief Justice or an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, with a Circuit Judge, or in the absence of the Chief Justice or Associate, the Court shall consist of their Circuit and District Judges; or either of the latter, in the necessary absence of the other, may sit alone.

Section 3 authorizes an appeal in cases involving fifty dollars, from final judgment, and the decrees of a District Court to their Circuit Court, or, without regard to the amount in controversy, where the question involved is one of general importance.

Section 4 allows an appeal to be taken from the Circuit to the Supreme Court, in cases involving two thousand dollars, whether suits of equity, brought into court by original process, or actions of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, or cases appealed from other courts, but in special cases for due cause shown to Chief and Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, an appeal may be allowed without regard to the amount in controversy. Exceptions are made under the act relative to inventors or for the collection of impost duties.

Section five provides that the present laws shall remain in full force, except as hereinbefore stated, as far as relates to Circuit or District Courts, their Judges' powers, processes, proceedings, clerks' fee, and place of holding courts, of division of opinion, &c.

Mr. Doolittle presented the credentials of John Pool, Senator elect from North Carolina, and in doing so, he said that he owed it to the Senate as well as to himself, to state that Mr. Pool has always been a devoted friend of the Union. He was the Union candidate for Governor of the State in 1860, before there was any immediate danger of secession. He canvassed the State, and opposed secession by every means in his power, to the very last. After the ordinance of secession was passed, he retired to private life, and refused to take any part in political affairs, until peace measures had commenced in North Carolina, in which he took an active part, and did all in his power to embarrass the rebel authorities. The credentials were ordered on the table.

Mr. Cowan presented a petition asking for the repeal of the Homestead law, that the proceeds of the sale of the land may be paid for the benefit of the public debt. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Howe presented a petition of the people of Wisconsin asking Congress to spend no more time in discussing the question as to whether the Southern States are in or out of the Union, but that they proceed to legislate so as to prevent the shedding of innocent blood in the South, and to protect loyal men there, black and white. Referred to the Committee on Reconstruction.

Mr. Sumner offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire what legislation, if any, is necessary to protect citizens of the United States, in Utah, in their civil rights.

Mr. Lane, of Kansas, moved that the Senators elect from Colorado be admitted to seats on the floor of the Senate. Agreed to.

Mr. Wilson introduced a bill to repeal the act authorizing the settlement of claims against the United States for property used or destroyed by the army or navy in late rebellious States.

Referred to Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Nye, the bill for the relief of J. B. Rittenhouse, fleet paymaster of the Pacific squadron, to indemnify him for loss of money stolen from his safe, was taken up and passed.

Mr. Morgan called up the bill to extend the time for withdrawing goods from stores and bonded warehouses.

The expiration of the morning hour prevented final action upon the bill, and the House joint resolution to amend the Constitution on the subject of representation taken up.

Mr. Lane, of Indiana, spoke at length on the proposition. He approached the discussion on the subject with a sense of its great importance, urging Senators to merge the partizan in the patriot. In speaking of the constitutional guarantee of a republican form of government, he asked if the constitution of North Carolina was so in form. He did not think it was. The President, as commander-in-chief of the army, had a right to appoint Provisional Governors when the war ceased. It is the duty of the President to recognize provisional governments in the rebel States. The States that were in rebellion had lost their connection with the Government such as it was before Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Johnson so distinctly recognized in their acts repeatedly. The power of the President over the rebellious States ceased with the convening of Congress, and it was with the Congress of the United States to fix the status of the seceded States. A State, under the Constitution, has no sovereign power to act, except so far as those acts concord with the provisions of the Constitution. Lately seceded States are not States in the true definition of the term. They have forfeited their rights as such. They have rebelled against the Constitution. They have cost the Government three thousand millions of dollars and half a million of lives. The proposition to admit these States at present is simply monstrous. We are called on now to compromise. What have we accomplished by compromise? What act of conciliation tendered to the rebels had any effect during the war? Not one. He wanted it known that the rebellion was put down by force, and by force alone. So agreed with the President. This resolution of reconstruction and suffrage ought to be left with the States. If the President has a right to regulate suffrage at all, he has a right to say who shall vote. He should wait till the last trumpet summoned the rebels to judgment before he should admit them to these halls. He did not know that the emancipated slaves were fit to vote, but they were quite as fit for it as rebels. His plan of reconstruction would be to pass an amendment to the Constitution, and after one, two or five years every man who can read the Constitution of the United States shall vote. He would disfranchise rebels for some space of time, and when he admitted them to vote again he would let negroes vote with them. We were not ready for restoration upon rebel votes or colored votes.

It was the duty of Congress and not the President to present a plan of reconstruction to the country. It was the duty of the United States to see every State had a Republican form of government; but this could not be done without the aid of Congress. The late rebel States are not in a condition to be admitted—nine out of ten of the citizens of the Southern States are rebels. He would not send rebels to Congress. Every man elected to Congress from Tennessee could take the oath of office, as required of all the members. In Arkansas, too, he believed, men had been elected who might be admitted. One thing was certain, no man from any State would ever be a Senator with his consent, until he had taken the oath.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, the further consideration of the Constitutional Amendment was postponed until one o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Trumbull, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill for the enlargement of the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau, with the House amendments.

Mr. Trumbull moved to agree to the amendments, except that one which restricted the operations of the bill to States in which the writ of habeas corpus was suspended on February 1st, 1866. This amendment would exempt Delaware, Maryland and Missouri from the operations of the bill.

Mr. Guthrie rose to reply to some remarks on the loyalty of Kentucky, made by the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Lane). He denied that Kentucky was ever disloyal, or in the hands of disloyal men. He knew that Kentucky was loyal, and that since the Governor who was in office when the rebellion commenced and went out of power, the Governor and Legislature had always been loyal.

Mr. Sherman said the rebels of Kentucky were most troublesome during the war, and the present condition of Kentucky justified Congress in applying the Freedmen's Bureau to her.

The amendments by the House, except restricting the operation of the bill to States in which the habeas corpus was suspended, February 1st, 1866, were agreed to, and the bill then passed.

Mr. Henderson would not vote for the House amendment. The only way to protect freedmen was to give them ballot.

Mr. Sumner—That's it.

Mr. Henderson resumed, saying that if he were a rebel he would rather take the unqualified negro suffrage than wear the badge of this Freedman's Bureau bill.

The amendment of the House, with the exception stated by Mr. Trumbull, was agreed to, and the bill as amended was passed.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Eggleston asked but did not obtain consent to introduce a resolution declaring that it is unwise to reduce the internal revenue tax on spirits.

Mr. Raymond presented a petition on behalf of the cigar-makers of the city of New York for an increased duty on imported cigars. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill for the disposal of public lands for homesteads for actual settlement, in the States of Alabama, Mississipi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Florida, as amended. It provides that from and after the passage of this act, all public lands in these States shall be disposed of according to the stipulations of the homestead law of May 20, 1862, entitled an act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on public domain, and an act supplementary thereto approved March 21st, 1864, but with the restriction that no entry shall be made for more than one-half a quarter section, or eighty acres, and in lieu of ten dollars an acre five dollars shall be paid at the time of the issue of each patent.

Provided that no distinction or discrimination shall be made in the construction of this act on account of race or color; and provided further, that no mineral lands shall be liable to entry under its provisions. The bill was passed—Yeas 112, nays 29.

The House, in Committee of the Whole, Mr. Blaine in the chair, resumed the consideration of the Navy Appropriation bill. A motion was made to strike out the appropriation of $28,000 for commandants' quarters at Pensacola Navy Yard.

Mr. Blackburn hoped the navy yard would not be built. One vessel had been built there, and that was a complete failure; and, finally, it had to be brought to Washington to be patched up, costing $1,000,000. He did not want to see either this yard or the Norfolk yard rebuilt. There were other and better navy yards where vessels could be built cheaper and better than in that latitude.

The navy appropriation bill was reported from the Committee of the Whole, with amendments, but no final action taken upon it. The House then took up the bankrupt bill.

There was a long debate on the appropriation for the Pensacola yard. An amendment was finally agreed upon, appropriating $20,000 for the preservation of the Government property at the Pensacola Navy Yard.

An amendment was adopted providing that so much of the 1st section of the act of July, 1864, appropriating $250,000 for bounties for the destruction of the enemy's vessels, shall apply to all cases of the kind during the rebellion, and at the same rate.

An amendment was adopted that no money appropriated by this bill be paid those who failed to take the prescribed oath of office. The bill was then reported to the House without final action, and was laid over until to-morrow. The House then adjourned.

STRANGE BRIDAL STORY.—A strange story is told of two sisters at Berlin. About three years ago one of these young ladies was engaged to be married, but on the bridal morning became so ill that she could not possibly go to the church. The bridegroom was a desirable one, and he was a fish who, it seems, had not easily been hooked. There was, therefore, great danger in delay, so instead of postponing the marriage the second sister, covering herself in a long veil, personated the first, and duly went through the ceremony. The moment it was over she transferred the bridal dress and ornaments to her sister, who was thus considered to have all proper claim to this husband she married by proxy. It is only recently that a discovery has been made of the real facts, and proceedings are about to be taken not only in the civil, but also in the criminal courts of Berlin.

VICTIM OF THE MIAMI DISASTER.—L. D. Carter, of Louisville, Kentucky, but formerly of Little Rock, and brother of Brigadier General Carter, of East Tennessee, was one of the unfortunate victims of the late Miami disaster. He was a worthy and highly reputable citizen, and leaves an interesting family and a large circle of friends to mourn his death.—[Memphis Bulletin.

The Explosion of the W. R. Carter—Further Particulars.

We copy the following from the Memphis Bulletin, of the 6th:

The following particulars were obtained from Frank Smith, first clerk of the Carter, who came up on the Luna, on his way to Louisville, last night. Mr. Smith was asleep at the moment of the explosion, was thrown from his berth, found himself confused by something like steam, bursted open the door and escaped suffocation; wrested his cabin doors from their hinges, threw them into the river, jumped on them and sunk; on rising, swam back to the boat, but was soon compelled to jump into the river again and make for the shore; being in undress he swam for a considerable time, seized upon floating drift and managed to keep above until the yawl of the Evening Star rescued him in an exhausted condition. He describes the scene around him as being of a most heart-rending character. The two ladies who got on at Helena were Mrs. Morris and Mrs. Ayres, the wives of planters below, and are both supposed to be lost. Miss Noel, of Owensboro, Ky., is said to be lost. Major Johnson, from Arkansas, was, it is feared, mortally injured. His daughter was saved. General Gano, of Texas, is missing, and supposed to be lost. General Gibson and brother were saved. General Ferguson was saved. Mr. Hefner was saved, but lost his wife and adopted daughter.

We learn from the passengers that all the officers and crew of the Evening Star, without distinction, made every possible effort to save human life, and after every possible search had been made and all the sufferers taken on board, everything was done in their power to relieve the maimed, wounded and distressed, and add to the comfort of those in undress, shivering with cold. The Captain ordered the table to be set and supplied with every luxury at hand, which, in obeyance, was constantly supplied with everything that could stimulate and refresh. The trunks of all the officers and crew were thrown open, each one of whom, without distinction, found some poor, benumbed suffer to clothe. This noble manifestation of spirit was, as it were, but the work of a moment, for which the actors have not only the sincere thanks of the sufferers, but deserve the thanks of every friend to humanity. Captain Smith himself, after witnessing the kind treatment he and his unfortunate companions received, said in a tremulous voice, "I never yet had a conception of that pure outflowing kindness which the misfortune of others could bring thus gushing from the hidden depths of the human heart. I hope," said he, "I may live to see them again, that I may sincerely show my appreciation of their worth." We repeat these remarks because of the sensitive, sincere, grateful and modest manner in which they were spoken. The trip, up to the moment of the disaster, had been one of the most pleasant and agreeable character. No cause is known or assigned for this awful explosion.

We have not been able to get, from any authentic source, a definite estimate of the number of persons lost

The yawl of the burning boat was used, as we understand, for the transportation of various persons to the shore, but as to what success we are unable to learn.

From all the statements we have heard it is inferred that those compelled to jump in the river to escape the fire of the burning wreck, did so during the trip of the yawl to the shore. Further particulars are looked for to-morrow from one who will be up on the first boat who was in the yawl and had a better chance to witness the changing phases and incidents of the appalling scene.

Mr. Gray, the messenger of the Southern Express, and who had in his care the two hundred thousand dollars to which we referred yesterday, was very badly injured, and is now in Vicksburg.

Some Particulars of the Loss of the Steamer W. R. Carter.

[From the Cincinnati Commercial of the 6th.]

Two gentlemen, passengers on the steamer Luna, (which left New Orleans on the 30th of January,) reached this city yesterday, and we gather from them some particulars relating to the loss of the W. R. Carter, the wreck of which they passed a short time after the catastrophe.

The first indications that the passengers upon the Luna had of the disaster, were parts of the wreck and cargo floating past, about daylight, on Friday morning, a few miles above Vicksburg. The Luna continued to pass parts of the drifting wreck for about fifteen miles, when she was met by the Evening Star, which had overtaken the wreck in time to pick up and save some twenty-five or twenty-six persons, found clinging to boards, cotton bales, swamped boats, and other drifting matter. Among the saved, on board the Evening Star, were but five females, though it was reported there were many lady passengers on board the W. R. Carter when the disaster occurred.

From concurring accounts, given by the few passengers who escaped with their lives, the following facts are gathered: The W. R. Carter blew up at about 4 o'clock Friday morning, February 2, about twenty-five miles above Vicksburg, and was in the middle of the river at the time, and running slowly. The noise attending the explosion was very slight, not sufficient even to awaken the passengers. The boat caught fire immediately. The first warning many had of danger was the fire in their state-rooms. The boat did not sink for upwards of one hour after the explosion. The pilot, who escaped, says he and his brother were at the wheel at the time, and his brother exclaimed, "What is that?" He replied, "Don't know, unless she is blowing up!" At that the floor raised comparatively slowly, and next place he discovered himself was down among the boilers. He saved himself, but his brother was lost.

A young man from Missouri was awakened by the fire, when he sprang up and climbed out of his state-room, through the flames, burning his hands very badly, and fell almost exhausted into the water, where he climbed upon a floating cotton bale, and hold fast nearly one hour, when he was picked up by the Evening Star.

A gentleman, said to be from Louisville, just married, was on the fated boat with his wife, and was awakened by fire in his state-room, when he rushed forward to see what was the matter, and became separated from his wife by the flames, when he shouted to her to jump overboard, and sprang into the water himself, but he could not induce her to follow. He swam about the boat for some time, trying in vain to convince her of his ability to save her, when he swam ashore, and she perished in the flames. He threw away, it was said, $17,000 in gold.

A waiter (colored) forcibly dragged a lady from her state-room and threw her overboard, to save her from burning to death, and the poor lady was drowned. It seems that the women in general clustered upon deck and perished in the flames rather than risk the water, while the men perished in the water, vainly endeavoring to persuade the women to trust themselves to the river. One of the saved tells of seeing dozens of men in the water, clinging to each other, and drowing in the struggle. Another tells of seeing them become chilled and fall back helpless in the river, meeting their fate.

To add to the terror of the scene were a number of horses and mules, which swam round and round the burning boat. As the Luna passed up, the poor animals could be seen struggling and shivering in the water, close to the bank, which they were unable to climb. Only one was to be seen that had gained a foothold on the shore. Everything indicated a most frightful disaster. Most of the persons saved had nothing but their night-clothes, and suffered extremely.

☞ We are rejoiced to see the prejudice against negro testimony fast giving way to a more enlightened public opinion. The mere fact of permitting negroes to testify in court does not elevate his social condition to an equality with the white man, as many seem to suppose. It is simply an act of justice to the negro, who is not responsible for the unfortunate termination of the war. During the terrible struggle through which we have passed, the negro was an arm of strength to the cause which has been lost. His kindness to the absent soldier's family has received the highest commendation, and to permit him to testify in court is a just recompense for his fidelity. The insane fanaticism of the North has plunged the negro into the deepest distress. It has taken him from his comfortable home, where he was surrounded with all the comforts of life, and made him a vagrant upon society. Most of them are living in want. Thousands are rotting in filth, disease and corruption. It is the duty of true disinterested Southern philanthropy to ameliorate the present condition of this poor creature. To give him the right of testifying in court will contribute to such a desirable result without making him an equal. Nor is there anything monstrous in this proposition, since the menial classes of all nations are permitted to appear in court, and in some instances, lords and nobles have been sent to the gallows on the evidence of house servants. Our colored population are as well qualified as the abject, degraded serfs of Europe to serve as witnesses in court, and if this poor boon be denied the negro, his condition will be made infinitely worse. The ends of justice are seldom perverted by false swearing. Perjury always confounds itself, and truth, when honestly told, should have its hearing, whether coming from the negro in his rags or the nabob in his ruffles.—[Memphis Avalanche.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE HOTEL.—On Thursday last a National Temperance Society was organized in New York. The pledge of the society is:

Total abstinence from making, selling or using intoxicating liquors as a beverage. The payment of $1 constitutes an annual member; $20, a life member; $100, a life director; $500, a life patron. Its object will be to educate the public conscience in the principles of total abstinence, on the Scriptural doctrine of duty and Christian charity; to enlist the churches, ministers, philanthropists and patriots in this great reformation; to establish an earnest and efficient organization based upon a moral and religious foundation; to enforce existing laws, and educate public opinion up to the enactments of more efficient and protective legislation. Believing, also, that the young are the hope of the church and the world, this new society proposes, through the Sunday schools and other institutes for the young, to educate the rising generation into habits of sobriety, and organize the youth of the land into societies, until every home becomes a citadel of temperance.

[For the Louisville Courier.]

Democratic Meeting in Carroll Co.

At a meeting of the Democratic party of Carroll county, held in Carrollton, Ky., on the 5th day of February, 1866, Col. S. W. Howard was called to the chair, and W. M. Fisher appointed Secretary, when the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee on Resolutions: Messrs. H. Cox P. O. Turpin, W. M. Fisher, Ben O'Neal and Robert Darling, who, after retiring for a short time, reported the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the action of the Kentucky Legislature, now in session, in rejecting the Abolition constitutional amendment, repealing the expatriation law of 1862, and all other odious laws passed since the commencement of the rebellion, meets the hearty approval of every true Kentuckian.

Resolved, That the Hon. L. W. Powell, for his able and patriotic opposition to encroachments attempted by the Radical party in Congress upon the Constitutional rights of the citizens of the United States, and their attempted subversion of our form of government, has placed himself high up in the list of great statesmen and true patriots in this country, and we would hail with delight his re-election to a seat in the United States Senate.

Resolved, That President Johnson by his enunciation that "this is a white man's government," and his opposition to negro suffrage and negro equality, has won for himself the confidence of all white men whose hearts and souls are not discolored by the foul blot of fanaticism.

Resolved, That the action of the Radical party in Congress in excluding from their seats the Southern members, is completely hostile to the principles enunciated by the late Administration and action of the Government during the rebellion, at war with the best interests of the country, and greatly endangers the liberties of the people; that we hold the ancient doctrine, that "taxation and representation should go hand in hand," and we honor President Johnson for his wise and patriotic course in regard to reconstruction.

Resolved, That we hold with President Johnson that the burthens of taxation should fall equally on all, and that there should be no favored classes, hence we are opposed to a tariff which affords protection to Eastern manufacturers and increases the burthens of taxation on the Western and Southern people.

Resolved, That we are opposed to all class legislation, and especially to such legislation as exempts the bonds of capitalists from taxation, and thereby increases the burthens of taxation on all other classes; and we hold that such legislation is opposed to the great principles of equality on which this Government was founded, and merits a rebuke from the laboring millions throughout the length and breadth of the republic.

Resolved, That, there being no hostility, either armed or otherwise, to the Federal Government in Kentucky, and that the people of the State are giving a patriotic support to the same, we hold that we are entitled to the rights under the *writ of habeas corpus*, and we ask that those rights may be restored to us.

Resolved, That we honor those members of Congress from Kentucky who have opposed the passage of the bill to establish the "Freedmen's Bureau," which we regard as being in violation of the Constitution of the United States, subversive of the rights of our whole population, tyrannical in all its provisions and intended operations, destructive of the rights secured to the people by State enactments, and ruinous to every class of our population.

Resolved, That a State Convention of our party to nominate a candidate for Clerk of the Court of Appeals, is indispensably necessary to secure harmony in our party, without which we cannot avoid defeat. And we urge the members of the Legislature of our party, and the State Central Committee, to call a convention, to meet at no remote day, and to fix the time and place for holding the same, and we appoint the following gentlemen to represent Carroll county in said convention: P. O. Turpin, F. W. Bates, H. Cox, R. W. Masterson, A. W. Darling, W. M. Fisher, Jesse Haynes, A. McCann, John G. Troutman, H. S. Wright, John C. Lindsay, George Wood, William O'Neal, Col. W. H. Landy, W. B. Lindsay, R. W. Sebree, Jacob Dienguld, W. O. Gullion, William Anderson, Dr. G. S. Whipple, W. McCleary, Col. S. W. Howard, Geo. P. Gullion, Wm. Dean, Cyrus Whitaker, Gen. Elijah Whitaker, Col. M. T. Pryor, S. W. Fallis, C. Duese, Geo. Ringo, Jr., F. H. Giltner, T. B. Spelman, Ben. O'Neal, Geo. T. Campbell, H. Adcock, Wm. Hartman, Allen Wilson, Franklin Brown, Jas. Brown, J. J. Haydon.

After which the following resolution was read and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That placing full confidence in the qualifications and integrity of D. Howard Smith, Esq., of Scott county, we recommend him as a candidate for the office of Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

Whereupon the following resolution was offered by Gen. E. Whitaker and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Hon. H. Cox, of this (Carroll) county, by his constant and undeviating devotion to Democratic principles and strict integrity, has endeared himself to the people of this part of the State, and we heartily recommend him as a suitable candidate for State Treasurer in 1867.

H. Cox offered the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That this meeting appoint a committee of two gentlemen residing in each district to solicit subscriptions to Democratic papers and to circulate Democratic documents in the county.

Whereupon the following gentlemen were appointed said committee: Hon. H. Cox, and Wm. Scandrett, of Carrollton; Robert Patterson and W. B. Lindsay, of Ghent; Wm. Anderson and W. O. Gullion, of Worthville; Ben O'Neal and Geo. T. Campbell, of Millcreek, and C. Duese and Stewart W. Fallis, of Locust.

The following resolutions were read and adopted:

Resolved, That a Mass Convention of the party be held in Carrollton, on the fourth Monday in April, for the purpose of nominating a county ticket.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Louisville Courier and the Louisville Democrat, Frankfort Yeoman, Maysville Bulletin, and the Cincinnati Enquirer be respectfully requested to copy and publish the same.

And the meeting adjourned.

S. W. HOWARD, Chairman.
W. M. FISHER, Secretary.

Theory of Mr. Cook—Electrical Causes of Steam Boiler Explosions.

[From the Memphis Bulletin.]

The recent terrible calamities that have occurred on the Mississippi by the explosions of steam boilers, within a period of only a few days, opens to the philosopher, rather than the mechanic, a theme for serious investigation, and I present a theory which, to some, may appear barely speculative. Yet it can be established by experimental philosophy, and the laws of the "true science of electricity."

I have for the last ten years devoted much attention to the causes of boiler explosions on this river, and have, at my own expense, investigated, at various times, causes of explosions that have occurred, which, with a few exceptions, have resulted in unsettling preconceived opinions on the subject. Commencing with the Sultana explosion, to the present time, I am satisfied that the cause of disasters is one over which the engineers and their subordinates, as now provided, have no control. I am convinced, as I said before, that engineers are not to blame. They may have been derelict in making some necessary repairs, but outside of that, they are, as a class, watchful, intelligent and competent set of mechanics. It is a very sorry thing to lay the blame on those that have charge, when, in our ignorance, we are unable to fathom the cause, without referring to defective sheets, bad setting, insufficiency of water, &c., together with deposits on fire plates, and the beautiful theory of the spheroidal condition of water superinduced by overheating the plates, I venture to the theory which I entertained for years, and these recent calamities, in my opinion, strengthen that theory.

When the philosopher Franklin asserted that there existed in the atmosphere an element the most wonderful and powerful of all known agencies, he was derided at first as a fanatic in science. That same element, which the great Franklin tangibly exhibited to the populace, is the cause, in my opinion, of these explosions.

Explanation.—In a steamboat, we find the very elements necessary for generating a powerful electrical current, the retention of the same, and its discharge. The battery of boilers are the generators; the boat, the conservator for the element generated, and the water beneath the boat, the insulator, to prevent the same from escaping.

When is this element electricity generated? Whenever the steam in the boilers is raised—but ordinarily so slightly, that it becomes dissipated before it can be concentrated. Electricity from steam is termed hydro-electricity. When water is raised to a hight of temperature, and steam is generated at a high pressure, under certain arrangements, electricity becomes latent in its most powerful form—capable of instantaneously decomposing water. This reduced to its elements, Hygen of Hydrogen, in certain proportions, is the most explosive compound known, and is more resistless than anything yet discovered.

The theory of these recurring disasters is, that they are generally fixed laws. Wherever we find the same conditions of the elements, we shall have the same results. The boilers are powerful hydro-electric machines, generating, at a certain pressure of steam, positive electricity. The boat is the receptacle of the same, and is, when it becomes an insulated receiver, like a Leydon jar.

When do explosions occur under this theory, is an important inquiry, since all boilers may be in this condition, and electricity generated in all. When the atmosphere is antagonistic or in a negative condition, and whenever the steam generates electricity, and the atmosphere is in a negative condition, the explosion occurs.

As at every moment fresh steam is generated, fresh electricity is generated, the boat becomes uncharged, the negative atmosphere meets it, a discharge takes place, the boilers being the most conductible material on board, receives that discharge, the steam and water are decomposed, and at the same time reunited, shattering everything that confines them, with all the harrowing results with which we have become lately too familiar.

Low-pressure steam does not generate electricity, and hence, low-pressure boats are exempt from such accident.

I offer you this theory for what it is worth. It may be deemed absurd, nevertheless it should not escape consideration, and if it incurs a passing notice, I will enter more fully into the subject.

JAMES B. COOK,
Architect and Civil Engineer.

GEN. GRANT GOING TO EUROPE.—The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Times writes:

Gen. Grant has made arrangements for spending the ensuing summer and fall in the European capitals. His motive in this is the same that took him all over this country last summer and fall. Some men shrink from demonstrations of this kind. General Grant likes them. He likes to be followed by admiring crowds, and to receive the homage and adulation of the million. His military laurels are now fresh, and their appearance in London, Paris and Vienna will create a sensation. He will go, therefore, in a national ship, attended by a gorgeous staff and a brilliant retinue. He will leave about May, make the grand tour, and return in the ensuing winter. A grateful country will pay all the bills.

A political significance attaches to this contemplated European trip. Gen. Grant is deep enough in the confidence of the President to know that there is no foreign war in prospect. It is safe to conclude, therefore, that the Mexican question is in a fair way of being settled by Mr. Seward, on the basis of the withdrawal of the French troops from, and our continued neutrality towards Mexico.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

The Radicals and the President—Necessity of the People Sustaining President Johnson—Rousseau's Great Speech—Its Reception—Cabinet Rumors, &c.

[Correspondence of the Louisville Courier.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 5, 1866.

Editors Louisville Courier: During the past week the Radicals, headed by Sumner and Wilson in the Senate, and Thad. Stevens in the House, have made a bold and distinct issue with the President. The new amendment to the Constitution was adopted by the requisite two-thirds in the House, and Stevens announced that the seceding States had no voice in its ratification, and only nineteen States were necessary in order to engraft it upon the Constitution. All minor issues should now be lost sight of by patriotic men, and however much they may have differed in the past, perfect union should now prevail, if we would have success in our resistance to the dogmas of fanaticism.

It may be a cause of regret to some (as it is with your correspondent), that the principles of the Sherman and Johnston treaty were not accepted as the basis of peace between the two sections of our country. And as this was not done, we certainly regret that Mr. Johnston did not say to every man in the South: "Go to your homes, and let your future actions determine the policy of the Government towards you. If you will now recognize this as your Government and endeavor to identify yourself with its future prosperity the past shall be forgotten, and it is only by showing that you are still enemies of the nation that you will cause its vengeance to be visited upon you." The past, however, cannot be recalled, but the effects of its errors may be avoided by discretion and patriotism.

Let every man ask himself, "What is the greatest evil that can befal us as a people?" and he will readily answer, "The success of the revolutionary doctrine now urged in our National Congress." Then how shall we resist it? We answer by sustaining the President as the leader of those opposed to the heresy.

I suppose that there are but few men in Kentucky who do not differ with the Executive upon some principle or question of policy, but upon the great absorbing principle we are all agreed, and we agree with him. Involved in the war between Mr. Johnson and Radicalism is the reserved right of the States, each for itself, to control the qualifications of its electors, to regulate its own police, and to adopt and administer its own laws touching all local questions. Should we of Kentucky (who are so deeply interested in these questions) not cease all factious opposition, and unite in sustaining him and upholding him in this great warfare? Our delegation in Congress (with one exception) are in harmony in their support of the President. The speech of Rousseau, Saturday, was met with hearty approval of all the Conservatives. Grider, Ritter, Smith, Shanklin, Randall and Trimble gathered around him, and manifested their sympathy with each noble sentiment he uttered, while the close attention given him by every member and the applause which greeted some of his utterances, both on the floor of the House and in the galleries, gave testimony that the hearts of his auditors responded to his patriotic appeals. And in truth it was a noble speech. His bold denunciation of the corruptions and oppressions of the Freedmen's Bureau, and his expose of the insolence of the parasites who were generally appointed as its agents, aroused the indignation of every true man who heard him, and it was grand to witness the scorn and contempt with which he denounced the idea that half a million men had died, not to preserve the Union, but to maintain in power the Republican party.

Beyond a rumor of a Cabinet dissolution there is no news of interest here.

Yours, Y.

Arrest of General Coolbaugh in St. Louis—He Claims to Have Been a Federal and Mexican Officer.

[From the St. Louis Republican, Feb. 3.]

Some excitement was excited yesterday in police circles by the arrest of a now notorious character known as Gen. George Coolbaugh. This individual has paid our city two or three visits during the past year, and has each time negotiated with our bankers and merchants in relation to various mysterious enterprises. On his first visit about a year ago, he was introduced to the community as Gen. Coolbaugh, of Mexico, agent of Maximilian for the purchase of arms and munitions of war and the enlistment of troops. Representing himself as such, he applied at the gun store of Albright & Son, on Fourth street, among others, and entered upon negotiations for the purchase of their entire stock of guns, pistols, &c. Not much attention was paid to his representations, however, and he found it very hard to make any very large purchases for Maximilian without the cash. It is alleged, nevertheless, that on the strength of some fancy notes and securities upon his first visit he succeeded in raising in loans from different parties in the city the amount of six or eight thousand dollars, and that he put his foot in other bad operations, such as ought naturally to have made him a little shy of St. Louis, after once making his escape from it. On one occasion he presented to Messrs. Gaylord, Leavenworth & Co., bankers, a voucher, purporting to have been signed by Capt. McKay, the Qurtermaster at Chattanooga, and which had been indorsed and audited in this city. The bankers cashed the voucher at a fair discount, but on taking steps to collect the amount of the voucher, they discovered that it was a forgery. When the discovery was made, Coolbaugh had left the city. A letter which was addressed to the bogus General's brother, Wm. L. Coolbaugh, a prominent banker in Chicago, now of the Union National Bank of that city, brought back an answer, that that was only one of the series of crimes in which he had engaged, and that his friends were now willing to do nothing to rescue him from disgrace and punishment. And, we understand, it is yet the purpose of Messrs. Gaylord & Co. to prosecute the alleged swindler. After this transaction, Coolbaug had not been heard of in this city until a week ago, when he engaged in another transaction, some account of which has already appeared in this column. Seeing in the Republican the advertisement of Mr. D. A. January, in which he offered for sale his country residence at Ferguson's Station, Coolbaugh at once conceived a plan for "purchasing" that property, with the chattels and personal property pertaining thereto, and at once waited upon Mr. January at his place of business on Second street, and introduced himself by presenting a forged letter from his brother in Chicago. He visited Ferguson's Station, took a look at the house and surroundings, and signified to Mr. January his intention to purchase, and requested him to make an inventory of the personal property and chattels pertaining to the house and grounds. Before arrangements could be perfected for the purchase, Mr. January discovered the forgeries, and Coolbaugh had nothing more to say in relation to the matter. Coolbaugh, who is a young man not yet thirty-two years of age, states that at the commencement of the war he was a farmer in Monroe county, Pennsylvania. He claims to have rendered such service in the Union cause as induced Gen. McPherson to appoint him to his staff, as Superintendent of military railroads in his department, with the rank and pay of Colonel. In June, 1863, he went to Mexico, as he says, and remained there about a year, but in what capacity is unknown. Since his last arrival in our city, which was about a month since, he has been boarding, with his wife, at the residence of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Spraggen, on Ninth street, between Cass avenue and Bates street. Yesterday morning, being too late for breakfast at home, he took a cup of coffee at the Galt House, and as he was leaving the hotel to return home, he was arrested by police officer Dalton, and placed in the Third District lock-up, for further developments.

Troubles in a Jewish Congregation.

The troubles of the Jewish congregation "Anshi Chesed," whose place of worship is at No. 127 Norfolk street, were again up before Judge Brady yesterday, at the Chambers of the Court of Common Pleas. The dispute in the case is concerning the ritual of the synagogue, which Mr. Nathan Rossman, the plaintiff, represents has been changed in many material respects, by order of the Board of Trustees, thereby not conforming with the ancient Jewish ceremonies. The principal specifications are that the prayers are not recited in the Hebrew language, but in the German, and that one prayer in particular has been dropped altogether at the religious services. For these reasons the interposition of the Court is asked, and an injunction sought for to restrain the continuance of the alleged innovations.

Mr. Joachimsen, ex-Deputy United State District Attorney, appeared for the plaintiff, and ex-Judge Dittenhoefer for the defendant. The court room was crowded with members of the congregation and other persons of the Jewish persuasion interested in the congregation.

Mr. Joachimsen took the ground that the substitution of the German for the Hebrew language was a change in violation of the express provisions of the congregational constitution, which required in unmistakable language the use of the ancient Hebrew. The counsel quoted the article of the constitution containing this provision.

Ex-Judge Dittenhoefer argued that the changes complained of were only such as naturally grew out of the enlightened and progressive spirit of the age. They did not affect the vital, essential, fundamental matters of belief, but were merely outward forms, upon which persons of the same faith might differ with safety. It could not be deemed necessary that the prayers should any longer be said in Hebrew—a language not familiar to a majority of the congregation. The counsel cited a decision of Judge Butler, of South Carolina, in support of his argument and views on the subject.

The discussion occupied several hours, and at its conclusion great excitement seemed to exist among the opposing members of the congregation. No decision was rendered.—[N. Y. Herald.

NOT DEAD.—We are glad to be able to state that the reported death of Mr. B. Stephens, of Orleans, Orange county, by the explosion of the Carter, is untrue. Mr. S. was among those saved. Messrs. Houghland, Brown and Goldburg were also saved. The only person killed of the party having charge of the stock of Mr. Braxton, was Mr. Sell, of Paoli. All the stock was lost by the disaster.—[New Albany Ledger.

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

The New Constitutional Amendment—Why Other Propositions were Rejected—Sectional Legislation—Sentiments of a Distinguished Southern General—A. T. Stewart's Libel Suit—The Fenians Again—A Munificent Donation.

[Special Correspondence of the Louisville Courier.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 5, 1866.

Congress has entered into its third month, and absolutely nothing has been done towards pacification. Indeed hardly a measure has been proposed, certainly none acted on, which is not fragrant with the odor of niggerism or pervaded with the demoniac spirit of Radicalism. The most flagrant act as yet, however, was the passage by the House of Representatives last week of the proposed amendment to the Constitution which provides that if any State excludes negroes from the ballot-box the negroes shall be excluded from the basis of representation. There were two other propositions before the committee which reported this amendment. One provided that no State shall make any discrimination in the elective franchise on account of race or color, and the other was an amendment basing representation upon legal voters. The first was considered impracticable, as its friends knew that the people of this country have not yet reached the point of degradation which reduces them to a level with the negro. It was therefore stopped. The second was even more objectionable, because, as it based representation on legal voters, of course it excluded the entire alien population which now commands more than twenty votes in the House. And hence when the franchise is given to the negro, as his abolition patrons intend it shall be, the South would be largely the gainer, while the loss to the North would be perpetual. This was also rejected by the Radical committee. They argued it would be better for the North (which gives them their base of power), that representation should remain undisturbed than to make a change which could possibly enure to the advantage of the South. But as the primary object was to reduce the power of the South, a plan was hit upon which is illustrated by the amendment. Should it be ratified by the requisite number of States, the South loses her representation in proportion to the exclusion of her negro citizens (God save the mark!) from the elective franchise. So, gentlemen of the South, prepare to take your choice. Isn't this sectional legislation with a vengeance? It is a fair specimen of the outrageous measures proposed by the traitorous gang with Thad. Stevens as the head devil. How strange the contrast between these Jacobins and the spirit of

A DISTINGUISHED SOUTHERN GENERAL,

who wrote to a friend in this city, "All the South has ever desired is that the Union, as it was established by our forefathers, should be preserved, and that the Government, as originally organized, should be administered in purity, in truth. If such is the desire of the North, there can be no contention between the two sections. Every patriot will unite in that policy which will soonest restore order, and thus perpetuate true republicanism." I am not permitted to name the author of the above, but I may venture to say his name is symbolic of truth, and that he is honored not less in the Old World than in the new.

ANOTHER LIBEL CASE.

Mr. A. T. Stewart, the merchant prince, so called, has preferred another charge for libel, and this time he takes a higher flight than when he struck at the Police Gazette. His action is against our venerable and respected cotemporary, the St. Louis Republican, through Geo. Knapp, Esq., its principal proprietor, for reproducing a letter of Mr. Colburn, a New York correspondent. The Bohemian, to add spice to his letter, and not having the importance of Mr. A. T. Stewart's forty millions of dollars in his mind's eye, wrote:

"Stewart is a long-headed, hard-fisted, selfish trader. He has no scruples of honor about breaking down a weaker competitor, which he can do without legal penalty. His fortune is the result of a very close application to business, sticking right to the line of his own commerce, and he is a relentless competitor with all rivals. By his great moneyed capital, he can and has broken up thousands of younger and less affluent men."

And then he committed the unpardonable sin of writing that, with all his wealth, "one of the richest, he was also one of the most miserable of men; that his old ugly wife wouldn't accept $500,000 and give him a divorce, &c.;" all of which latter part Mr. A. T. Stewart (worth forty millions) swears was meant for him. On this charge, Mr. Knapp, now on a visit to New York, and said correspondent, were arrested and imprisoned one night, and gave bail next day to appear and answer therefor. I do not know that this man is greedy or avaricious, or that he has ruined thousands of young tradesmen by his unscrupulous business dealings; neither do I know that he is miserable because his wife declines to grant him a divorce; and if I did, I wouldn't say so. But I do say, his general reputation here is that he is as mean as he is rich; and as he is worth forty millions, I reckon that is about the height of meanness.

It is proper to remark that the proprietors of the Republican apologized for the appearance of the paragraph, stating that the editor would have excluded it had it fallen under his eye. But this seems not to have appeased the wrath of the dry-goods man. Ordinary individuals would have been satisfied—but they are not worth forty millions. It is not easy to transform a Scotchman into an Irishman, but it is easy to pass from a Scotch subject to the

FENIAN IMBROGLIO,

and what will come of it. It begins to assume a formidable shape—not as against England, but against the interests and peace of this country. For months the Brotherhood have had what they call their President and Senate. The Irish flag each morning is flung to the breeze from the "official building" on Union Square; and President Roberts and General Sweeny declare in public addresses that before May war will have been commenced against England—in other words, that the Fenians will invade Canada—for that is a part of the well-known programme. Now this thing must stop, and Andy Johnson must apply the stopper. Her Majesty's Government has borne the hostile demonstrations made in this country by our Irish citizens with wonderful patience, but as the danger thickens the lion begins to growl. Of course the invasion of Canada would be a cause of war, and if the Government does not interpose its strong arm, we will be engaged in war with Great Britain before the leaves fall. Gen. Sweeny says the war will commence by May. I predict, if it be attempted, that the Fenian Brotherhood will terminate their public existence in this country, on the first demonstration.

A HANDSOME DONATION.

I believe I am correct in stating that Warren Newcomb, Esq., of this city, has made the handsome donation of $10,000 to Washington College, over which Gen. Robt. E. Lee presides. I have no doubt Mr. Newcomb will derive more real pleasure from that investment, than any other he ever made. SEMI-OCCASIONAL.

Terrible Explosion.

The city was startled this morning by the news of the explosion of the tug-boat Baltic, which occurred at about 8 o'clock. The Baltic was lying attached to a coal barge, at the foot of Customhouse street, at the time the explosion took place. The explosion was terrific; the hull of the boat sank, and nothing remains of the Baltic but what was thrown on shore by the force of the explosion. There were few persons on board at the time; and, at the present writing, we give as far as we can learn, the following as the loss of life and injury sustained by this sad disaster: Capt. W. L. Smith, of the Baltic, was thrown on board of the steamer Champion, lying near by, and fatally injured. He died while being conveyed to his residence, on Crape street, Third District. The pilot and engineer were slightly injured, and the cook and first mate are missing. Four negroes, standing upon the landing, we learn, were killed by pieces of timber. The body of one was brought to the First District Station. He had been struck in the chest. We learn that the pilot and head clerk of the steamer Cotile, were also dangerously injured. The steamer Champion, and other boats lying near by, were more or less injured. No cause has yet been assigned for the explosion.

It appears that the Baltic was literally torn to pieces, and sank within a minute after the explosion; parts of her machinery went in every direction, one piece struck a house very near the Custom House; another piece (a bar of iron several feet long) was bent up, struck and cut two of the iron guys to the chimneys of the steamer National, passed through the door into the captain's room in the Texas, and lodged by him in bed, without in the slightest degree injuring him. Capt. Dick Sinnott says he got up, instantly, and on looking out saw the Baltic go down, and the debris was falling all over the National and the adjoining boats, the Texas, Champion, Little Martin and Cotile.

The steam pipe came down on the hurricane deck of the Cotile, just forward of the chimney, passed through, struck the barkeeper, Mr. M. Burke, cut his shoe to pieces and broke his leg; the clerk, Mr. Robert G. Barclay, had his coat torn nearly off, his head cut, and back and legs badly bruised; others on the Cotile were slightly injured. A piece fell through the deck of the Countess, near the steps forward, but did not strike any one.—[New Orleans Picayune, Feb. 4.

☞ Father Hyacinthe continues to draw immense congregations at Notre Dame. In one of his recent sermons he remarked in the presence of the Archbishop of Paris, "Man was for a long time merely a promising non-commissioned officer in the army of apes." The reverend gentleman dresses in an elegant monkish costume, and took several lessons of an opera singer to improve his voice.

Kentucky Legislature.

FRANKFORT, Feb. 6, 1866.

SENATE.

Mr. Harrison moved to withdraw from the hands of the Governor a bill which has passed both Houses, having for its object the amendment of the law regulating fees to be paid by foreign insurance companies, which motion was adopted.

Mr. Dudley—A bill to make agricultural and mechanical laborers preferred creditors in certain cases, amendatory of the act of March 10, 1856, entitled "an act to prevent fraudulent assignments, &c." Passed.

Same—A House bill to incorporate the Russell Creek and Green River Oil Company. Passed.

Same—A House bill to incorporate the Lewis Creek Oil and Mining Company. Passed.

Same—A House bill to incorporate the Old Dominion Oil and Mining Company. Passed.

Same—A House bill to incorporate the Slickford Petroleum Company. Passed.

Mr. Swigert—Agriculture and Manufactures—A bill to incorporate the Hancock County Agricultural Society. Passed.

Mr. Stone—Education—A bill to incorporate Lewisport Academy, in Hancock county. Passed.

Mr. Wright—Same—A House bill to incorporate the Jessamine Female Institute. Passed.

Same—A House bill to incorporate the United Evangelical Christian School Society, of Louisville. Passed.

An act to amend an act entitled an act to reorganize and discipline the militia of Kentucky.

The provisions of the bill are as follows:

The Governor shall have power to call out the militia to enforce the laws when there is a combination to resist the same. In case of tumult, riot, or mob, the commander-in-chief, mayor of any city, or the Judge of any court of record, may order out the militia. The act abolishes the salary of the Inspector General, and merges the duties of the same into the office of the Adjutant General. The salary of the Adjutant General and Quartermaster General is fixed at $1,200 per annum for each. The Adjutant General shall be allowed two clerks. The Quartermaster General shall have two clerks. The salary allowed each clerk shall be $1,000 *per annum*. The same was passed.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. B. D. Lacy, the member elected to serve in this House from the county of Bath, in place of Lander Barber, whose seat was declared vacant, appeared, was qualified and took his seat.

SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.—Mr. Bijur presented a communication from the City of Louisville, requesting the appointment of a committee from the Senate and House of Representatives to visit Louisville and examine and report whether the buildings are suitable which Louisville will furnish for the temporary use of the State for the General Assembly and State offices in the event of a removal of the seat of Government of the State to said city, and until permanent improvements for those purposes may be erected.

Mr. Bijur moved the appointment of a committee, as requested in said communication. Adopted.

The House took up the bill authorizing the refunding of money paid into the Treasury on account of the sale of runaway slaves sold since the 1st day of January, 1863, by order of court.

Said bill reads as follows:

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, That in all cases where runaway slaves have been sold by order of court, since the first day of January, 1863, and the proceeds of such sale, after deducting reward to take up, jailer's fees and costs, have been paid into the Treasury of the State, the amounts of such proceeds so paid into the Treasury shall be refunded to the purchaser who paid the same, or his heirs or personal representatives, on making proof before the court which ordered the sale that he or they did not sell the said slave prior to the 1st day of December, 1865, and executing a bond to the Commonwealth of Kentucky, with sufficient surety to be approved by the said court, conditioned to pay the owner, his heirs or representatives, the amount so paid into the Treasury, and fully to indemnify the State against any such claim: Provided, That the owner of such slave may sue upon such bond in his own name, without including the Commonwealth, after the purchase money has been withdrawn from the Treasury, as authorized by this act.

Sec. 2. When duly certified copies of the proceedings and bond authorized and executed in compliance with the first section of this act are filed in the office of the Auditor of Public Accounts, it shall be the duty of the Auditor to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer for the amount paid into the Treasury, on account of the purchase of such slaves, in favor of the purchaser, his heirs, administrators or executors, as the case may be.

Sec. 3. That the clerk of the court in which the proceedings authorized by this act are held, shall duly record said proceedings and bond at the costs of the party applying for the same, and the Auditor shall preserve the copies thereof filed in his office.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

The vote being taken resulted—yeas 47, nays 37.

The Speaker stated that he would examine and see whether it required a constitutional majority to pass the bill, before deciding whether it was passed or rejected.

The House took up the bill in relation to contracts with negroes and mulattoes.

Said bill reads as follows, viz:

Sec. 1. That all contracts for labor or service made with negroes and mulattoes, for a longer period than one month, and all contracts for an amount exceeding fifteen dollars, which are not to be performed within one month, shall be in writing and in duplicate, attested and read to said negro or mulatto, by a civil officer, examiner, notary public, mayor, trustee, or councilman, or two disinterested white persons of the county in which the labor is to be performed, of which each party shall have one. The parties may stipulate that the contracts are to be held as entire contracts, and that, if the laborer shall quit the service before the expiration of his term of service, without good cause, or fails to perform the contract within the time specified, he shall forfeit his wages up to the time of quitting, or the amount that may be due in the contract.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Mr. Allen offered the following amendment, which was adopted, viz:

Sec. 2. If the employer of such negro or mulatto shall, without good cause, discharge him from service before the term thereof expires, or from the performance of any contracts or undertaking before he has had reasonable opportunity to perform the same, such employer shall be liable to the employe for the full amount which would have been due him, had he been permitted to perform the service or undertaking.

Mr. Harlan offered the following as an additional section, which was adopted—yeas 59, nays 33:

If any person shall persuade, or shall attempt to persuade, entice, or cause any negro or mulatto to desert the legal employment of any person before the expiration of his or her term of service or fulfillment of contract, such person shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not exceeding one hundred dollars.

Mr. Rousseau moved to amend the bill by striking out the words "negroes and mulattoes," wherever they occur, and insert "any persons."

The bill and proposed amendments were re-committed.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from Judge Wm. C. Goodloe, in relation to the investigation of his official conduct.

LEXINGTON, KY., Feb. 5, 1866.

To the Hon. H. Taylor, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

SIR: When I heard that the House of Representatives had ordered an investigation of my official conduct, I felt a desire to appear before the committee, not for the purpose of defending myself against the charges which might be brought against me, but for the purpose of exercising such limited cross-examination as would be calculated to cause the witness to disclose all he knew about the transaction; and if any witness, more competent to explain the whole transaction than those summoned by the committee, was kept back, to ask the committee to summon such witness.

On Tuesday, the 30th ult., I learned that several gentlemen had been summoned to appear before the committee, in this city, on the 1st instant, and on the next morning I learned that the committee had reached the city the night before, and kept myself in the central part of the city, frequently passing their hotel, for the purpose of enabling them to notify me without inconvenience. When learning, late in the evening, that they had concluded not to give me notice, I returned to my residence, and addressed a note to a member of the House, asking the passage of a resolution allowing me to appear before the committee and cross-examine.

I learn from the report of your proceedings, as published in the newspapers, that you have passed such a resolution, but upon terms I can not accept.

The twelfth section of the bill of rights guarantees to me the right, if impeached by the House of Representatives, of meeting before that high court (the Senate) the witnesses against me, face to face; a right which the already developed surroundings of my case teaches me is of inestimable value. Your resolution deprives me of this right, in making the depositions taken before the committee evidence on the trial of the impeachment, should one be ordered; and if I avail myself of its privileges I consent to its disabilities, which I can never do.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a Circuit Judge in one of the largest, wealthiest, most intelligent central judicial districts of the State for near twenty years. During that period I disposed of more cases, keeping my dockets fully up, held my regular terms without leaving a case ready for trial undisposed of and more special terms than any Circuit Judge in the State. Blest with a vigorous constitution, I have met the onerous duties of my office with an energy, industry, impartiality and integrity that defies the tongue of calumny. I have been, on these several occasions, elected in changed districts, without ever having canvassed, electioneered or asked the support of a single voter, and have left no county in any of my districts in obedience to legislative charges, without being voluntarily furnished by the members of the bar and officers of the court, "jurors of the vicinage," the highest testimonies of my integrity and impartiality. During this long period, now constituting me an old man, the highest political excitements have prevailed, and I have always been decided and out-spoken in my political opinions, and no one in the ten counties in which I have presided can truthfully say that politics have had influence in my courts, or that any one has been denied a right or suffered a wrong at my hands on account of his politics. I do not now understand that my accusers charge me with any such offence. Their accusation seems to be that I have not allowed the State to arrest and try citizens upon insufficient indictments.

Now, sir, in view of all this long service, I feel that if I am not entitled to a fair, calm and considerate investigation of my case, I am at least entitled to have the accustomed mode of proceeding observed.

When in 1861 some members of the House supposed that the conduct of Judge Burns, of the 11th District, required investigation, the House referred the resolution of inquiry to the Committee on Circuit Courts. During your last session, the resolution in relation to E. B. Carpenter, the Commonwealth's Attorney of the 9th District, was referred to the Committee on Circuit Courts. During the same session the resolution in regard to Chief Justice Bullitt was first sent to the Committee on the Court of Appeals. I understand, sir, that it is one of the rules of your House that all resolutions shall be referred to one of its standing committees, yet, in my case, a resolution [illegible] upon the House, and passed, for a special committee, under the control of [illegible]. Now, sir, why this departure [illegible] the accustomed practice of the Legislature, [illegible] deprive me of the safeguard of a [illegible] committee, [illegible] without reference [illegible].

The notification of the committee to appear before them [illegible] the first official evidence of the [illegible], and present the first occasion [illegible] propriety, address [illegible] alluded to herein.

I am, [illegible], &c. W. C. GOODLOE.

Mr. [illegible] moved that the special committee in the case of Judge Goodloe be discharged, and that the whole subject, together with the communication, be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Adopted.

Mr. Allen offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That so much of the resolutions heretofore passed by this House as proposes to make the depositions taken by the committee, evidence for and against Judge Goodloe, in case of his impeachment before the Senate of Kentucky, be and the same is hereby repealed.

And then the House adjourned.

FRANKFORT, Feb. 7, 1866.

SENATE.

Mr. Harrison presented communications from the city of Louisville, inviting a committee of the two Houses to visit Louisville, to visit and examine the public buildings situated there, with a view to the removal of the seat of Government from Frankfort to that city.

In accordance therewith a resolution was adopted, which was amended, so as to take into consideration the claims of Lexington or any other point in the State; and said Committee, on the part of the Senate, were Messrs. Cook and Bruner.

ELECTION OF PENITENTIARY KEEPER.—A committee announced to the House the readiness of the Senate to enter into the election of a keeper for the State Prison, which duty having been performed, a similar announcement was made from the House.

Mr. Cleveland nominated H. I. Todd, and Mr. O. P. Johnson named E. K. Owsley, and the vote being taken, was as follows:

For Todd 22
For Owsley .... [illegible]

The vote on joint ballot was:

For Todd .... [illegible]
For Owsley 34

And Mr. Todd was declared duly elected.
The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House took up the bill in relation to the Agricultural College, together with the amendment proposed by the Committee on Ways and Means.

The bill reads as follows:

Sec. 1. That the Auditor of Public Accounts be, and he is hereby, authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer of the Board of Curators of Kentucky University, for the sum of twelve thousand dollars, which sum is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to aid in putting the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky into immediate operation. Upon the payment of the foregoing sum the State shall be entitled to send to said college, free of charge, three pupils for each representative district.

Sec. 2. Before the Auditor shall draw his warrant upon the Treasurer, in accordance with this act, the Curators of the said University shall accept the provisions of this act, and shall transmit to the Governor a certified copy of the order of their Board showing said acceptance.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

The amendment reads as follows:

Provided, however, The State reserves the right, hereafter, to reimburse for itself the amount herein appropriated out of the interest arising from the sale of the land scrip donated by Congress: and, provided, further, the money herein appropriated shall not be drawn from the Treasury until the Curators of Kentucky University shall certify to the Governor that said Agricultural College is ready to go into immediate operation in accordance with the provisions of the act establishing the same.

The question being taken, the amendment was adopted, and the bill passed—yeas, 55; nays, 34.

The House then took up the bill to exempt a homestead from execution and attachment. Passed—yeas, 55; nays, 38.

A message was received from the Senate, informing the House that the Senate was ready to proceed with the election of a Keeper of the Penitentiary.

The vote being taken, resulted as follows, viz:

For Mr. Todd .... [illegible]
For Mr. Owsley .... [illegible]

Mr. Todd having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected.

House bill conferring certain civil rights upon negroes, was taken up and passed.

Said bill reads as follows:

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky*, That all negroes and mulattoes may sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, in all the courts of law and equity of this State; and may acquire property and choses in action, by gift, devise, descent, or purchase, and may dispose of the same in the same manner, and to the same extent, that white persons may.

Sec. 2. That any negro or mulatto may, by affidavit, charge any person with any criminal offense against his or her person or property, or the person or property of another, and, upon such affidavit, the proper process shall be issued as if said affidavit had been made by a white person; and it shall be lawful for any negro or mulatto, in any action, suit, or controversy pending, or to be instituted in any court of law or equity of this State, to make all needful and lawful affidavits, as shall be necessary for the institution, prosecution, or defense of such action, suit, or controversy.

Sec. 3. That negroes and mulattoes shall be competent witnesses in all civil proceedings in which negroes and mulattoes are the only parties, and in all criminal proceedings where a negro or mulatto is a defendant.

The House then took up and passed the bill in relation to the marriage of negroes and mulattoes.

Said bill reads as follows:

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky*, That all negroes and mulattoes may intermarry with each other, in the same manner, and under the same regulations that are provided by law for white persons: Provided, that the clerk of the county court shall keep separate records of the same. In addition to the persons now authorized by law to solemnize marriage, marriages between negroes and mulattoes may be solemnized by any minister in good standing of any recognized church of colored persons.

Sec. 2. All negroes and mulattoes who have heretofore lived and cohabited, and do now live together as husband and wife, shall be taken and held in law as legally married, and the issue held as legitimate for all purposes: Provided such persons shall appear before the clerk of the county court of their then residence, and declare that they have been, and desire to continue, living together as husband and wife, when, upon the receipt of a fee of fifty cents, the clerk shall make a record of such declaration, and, for an additional fee of twenty-five cents, shall furnish the parties with a certificate of said declaration. Said record or certificate shall be evidence of the existence of the marriage and the legitimacy of the issue born or to be born to said parties.

Sec. 3. It shall not be lawful for any negro or mulatto to intermarry with any white person, nor for any white person to intermarry with any negro or mulatto; and any person who shall so intermarry shall be deemed guilty of felony, and, on conviction thereof, shall be confined in the penitentiary for any period, in the discretion of a jury, not less than five years. Those shall be deemed negroes and mulattoes who are of pure negro blood, and those descended from a negro to the third generation inclusive, though one ancestor of each generation may have been a white person.

Sec. 4. This act to take effect.

The House then took up the bill for the benefit of negroes and mulattoes in this Commonwealth.

Said bill reads as follows:

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky*, That all the taxes hereafter collected from negroes and mulattoes in this Commonwealth, shall be set apart and constitute a separate fund for their use and benefit, one half to go to the support of their paupers and the other half to the education of their children.

Sec. 2. In addition to the tax already levied by the laws of this Commonwealth, a tax of two dollars shall be levied on every male negro and mulatto over the age of eighteen years, to be assessed and collected as other taxes, and when paid into the Treasury, to go into the fund aforesaid.

Sec. 3. The Commissioner of Taxes in each county shall keep a separate book, or a separate column in his book, for the enlistment of all the taxable property of negroes and mulattoes, and in which the names of all the male negroes and mulattoes over the age of eighteen shall be recorded.

Sec. 4. The Trustees of each School District in this Commonwealth may cause a separate school to be taught in their district for the education of the negro and mulatto children in said district, to be conducted and reported as other schools are, upon which they shall receive their proportion of the fund set apart in this act for that purpose.

Sec. 5. The County Court of each county may certify to the Auditor of Public Accounts the number of negro and mulatto paupers kept in each county, and upon such certificate draw their proportion of the fund set apart in this act for that purpose.

Sec. 6. Nothing in this act shall be construed as interfering with the rights of the County Courts in levying county taxes.

Sec. 7. This act to take effect from its passage.

The bill was passed—yeas 59; nays 30.

Mr. Wolford offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz:

WHEREAS, The Hon. Geo. H. Pendleton is in this city; therefore,

Resolved, That he be invited to deliver an address in this Hall to-night at 7 o'clock, and that the use of this Hall be tendered to him and to the ladies for that purpose.

The House then took up the House bill to incorporate the Security Insurance company. Passed. And then the House adjourned.

SENATE.

FRANKFORT, Feb. 8, 1866.

Mr. Swigert—Internal Improvements—A House bill to incorporate the Loretto and Raywick Turnpike Road Company, with an amendment. Passed.

Same—A House bill to incorporate the Bowling Green and New Roe Turnpike Road Company. passed.

Same—A House bill to incorporate the Horse Cave and Barksville Railroad Company, with an amendment. Adopted and Passed.

Mr. Lilly—Same—A bill to incorporate the Paris, Mt. Sterling, Virginia and East Tennessee Railroad Company. Passed.

Mr. Harrison—Judiciary—A bill to amend the Hope Insurance Company of Louisville. Passed.

Same—A bill to prohibit judges and chancellors from practicing law, and engaging in other business. Passed.

Same—A House bill to incorporate the Louisville Dispensary. Passed.

Same—House bill [illegible] laws regulating fees to be paid by [illegible] insurance companies, with an amendment. Passed.

House bills to incorporate the following mining and manufacturing companies, with amendments to each, were passed:

Hunter's Mill, Reynold's Mill, Arnold's Hill, Brown's Mill, North Elkhorn, Boone, Uniontown, Colcord's, Piney Woods, Alvasia, and Red River Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Bruner—resolution—Fixing Saturday next as a day for the election of commissioners for the Lunatic Asylum at Lexington. Adopted.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Varnon—Ways and Means—For the benefit of the Western Lunatic Asylum. [Appropriates $67,500 to finish and furnish the asylum and pay off some debts due by it.] Passed. Yeas 85; nays 0.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Young offered the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz:

WHEREAS, During the late war it has been necessary to spend large sums of money for military purposes; and whereas, there is thought to be a large amount of unsettled business connected with and growing out of the military operations of the State; therefore,

Resolved, That this General Assembly shall appoint a committee, composed of two members of the House and one from the Senate, whose duty it shall be to assemble during the recess of the Legislature, to settle or adjust the fiscal concerns of the Military Board; to ascertain as near as possible what amount of money has been disbursed by said Board, and for what purpose, and what amount of debt the State has incurred on account of expenditures for military purposes.

Resolved, That said committee ascertain the cost of the houses built for the use of the Military Board if the military fund was used in putting up these buildings or what money, and by what authority was the said money used for said buildings.

Resolved, That said committee investigate a contract for five thousand guns, Ascott & Triplett's carbines, [illegible] whom the contract was made, who the price, and when and how to be paid, how many of said guns were broken in the boxes while being shipped from West Meriden, Conn., to Frankfort, Ky.; and who, when the contract was not complied with in [illegible] said guns at the time [illegible] and when [illegible] delivered about five hundred [illegible] the balance [illegible] weak and flimsily made as [illegible] almost valueless, did the Military Board [illegible] them: Provided, nothing herein shall [illegible] stop the adjustment and payment of the [illegible] against the State for military purposes.

Resolved, That said committee have authority to send for persons and papers; to employ as many clerks as [illegible] deem necessary; and that they be required to report within three days after the meeting of the next Legislature.

Mr. Bijur—Judiciary—Authorizing the Council of the city of Louisville and County Court to pay judges holding courts in said city an additional salary. Passed.

Mr. McHenry—Judiciary—Authorizing the sale of the Maysville and Big Sandy Railroad, and providing for the organization of a new company under the charter of said company. Passed.

Same—To incorporate the town of [illegible] in Jefferson county. Passed.

CONTESTED ELECTION.

Mr. Webb, from the majority of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, to whom had been referred the petition of sundry citizens of Garrard county, praying that the seat of Daniel Murphy, the member from that county in this House, may be declared vacant, made a report, together with a resolution declaring said seat vacant. Adopted—yeas, 61; nays, 20.

Mr. Priest offered a resolution providing that the House hereafter meet at nine o'clock A. M. Adopted.

Mr. Buckner—Judiciary—To incorporate the Kentucky Cashmere Company. Passed.

Mr. Beadles—Religion—To incorporate the Kentucky Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Passed.

Same—To incorporate the Mendelssohn Club Benevolent Society, of Louisville. Passed.

The Georgia Senators—Stephens and Johnson Accept.

The Macon Journal, of February 1st, says:

We have been asked will ex-Governor Johnson accept the proffered position of a seat in the United States Senate? We learn from a friend that a dispatch has been received at Milledgeville, answering this question in the affirmative. It is also believed that he and Mr. Stephens will both address the people of the State through the press, or in answer to a resolution address the Legislature upon the state of the country.

How the Hon. A. H. Stephens came to accept the Senatorship is seen in the following correspondence, which we find in the Macon Telegraph, of the 31st:

MILLEDGEVILLE, Jan. 29, 1866.

Hon. A. H. Stephens:

ESTEEMED SIR: We have read with deep regret your letter to the Legislature, withholding the use of your name in connection with the Senatorial canvass; but while we grant to you the right of *refusing* a candidacy for a seat in the United States Senate, yet at the same time we claim to have also the right to bestow upon you this trust, involving, as it does, important considerations. We feel, sir, that a vast majority of the people of the State are looking to you as the man for the crisis. As the representatives of that constituency, desirous to carry out this manifest demonstration of the public will, we now ask, will you serve if elected?

H. R. CASEY, WM. GIBSON,
CLAIBORNE SNEAD, JAS. M. RUSSELL,
JESSE A. GLENN, J. O. GARTRELL,
BEN. D. MOORE, P. B. BEDFORD,
O. L. SMITH, GEO. S. OWENS,
J. A. W. JOHNSON, P. J. STROZIER,
B. A. THORNTON.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Jan. 29, 1866.

Messrs. H. R. Casey, William Gibson, and others:

The right claimed by you in your note to me of this date I do not wish to be understood as at all calling in question.

In reply to your interrogatory I can only say that I cannot imagine any probable case in which I would *refuse* to serve, to the best of my ability, the people of Georgia, in any position which might be assigned to me by them or their representatives, whether assigned with or without my consent.

Yours truly,
ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS.

Terrible Tragedy—Three Citizens of Louisville Murdered.

Brief telegraph mention was made in the COURIER a few days since of the following horrible murder, the particulars of which we find in the Yazoo (Miss.) Banner:

A shocking tragedy, than which none blacker has disgraced our annals, occurred ten miles north of Benton, on the afternoon of last Wednesday. Last Tuesday a party of thieves, three in number, stole thirteen mules from the plantation of Judge Dubuisson, five miles below Yazoo City. The mules were the property of Capt. John Ray, who with Mr. Charles Dubuisson came up to Yazoo City, Wednesday morning, and being joined by James B. Hoskins, A. C. Coffee and James H. Copeland, set out in pursuit of the thieves, who had gone towards Benton. At Benton they heard they had taken the Lexington road. Capt. Ray and his party followed them, overtaking them at the house of Mrs. Logan, where, having just concealed the mules, they had stopped. Capt. Ray and his party went up to the house, and most of them dismounted. Ray walked up to the house and told one of the thieves, who was standing at the door with a gun in his hand, that he wanted his mules. The fellow told him he could not get them.

Whereupon Ray set his own gun down, advanced upon the porch where he stood, seized his gun and attempted to wrench it from him. While he had hold of the gun, another of the thieves shot him with a pistol. He turned, walked off the porch and fell dead in the yard. Then the villains in the house opened a brisk fire on the party without, three of whom were on the porch. Hoskins and Coffee were shot, and walked off the porch and fell dead in the yard, though not before they had exchanged shots with the thieves. They fired several shots at Copeland and Dubuisson after the death of their three companions, one shot passing through Copeland's coat. It is supposed that one of the villians was killed. Here the firing ceased, and they disappeared, it not being known whether they went out of the house or concealed themselves in it.

Copeland and Dubuisson took the bodies of the dead men and laid them on the porch and came away. Yesterday they returned with coffins to bring them to this city.

What next? Is there no power to put an end to murders and robberies? Shall crimes of the blackest kind go unpunished?

The three unfortunate men who were killed were from Kentucky, and had served with honor in the Southern army during the war, and had come amongst us to retrieve their broken fortunes. They were all gentlemen, and their untoward fate merits the sympathy of all.

Several parties have gone out to try to arrest the wretches, and it is to be hoped they will be successful.

Texas.

The venerable and respected ex-President of the former Republic of Texas, David G. Burnet, has published a very important notice to all those who have been the victims of oppression by the agents of the Freedmen's Bureau in this State to send him all the evidence in their case, and he will forward it to President Johnson. These oppressions, he intimates, are against the policy of our worthy Chief Magistrate, and he will reprimand their authors. The people of Texas have not shown the least hostility to the military authorities since the close of the war. They have accepted the situation in good faith, and have labored hard to restore peace and harmony to our distracted country. No wonder the venerable ex-President protests against the outrages committed by agents of the Freedmen's Bureau.—[Houston Telegraph, 30th ult.

The demand for laborers on the plantations is greater than the supply, and we see scores of planters seeking freedmen. Many of the planters pay a premium for every laborer obtained, and some men are doing a thriving business in securing them. We met a planter from Grimes county yesterday, who informed us that he would plant more cotton this season than in any one season prior to the war, and would employ 30 per cent. more laborers. He informed us that many of his neighbors would do the same thing, and this is the cause of laborers being so scarce. Nearly all the planters have been stimulated to raise cotton the coming season on account of the high prices the staple brings, and many argue that the price of cotton will not be less than twenty-five cents per pound for several years hence, and as the majority of planters have sufficient farming utensils to last them some time, they have gone to work to retrieve their lost fortunes in negro property.—[Houston Telegraph, 28th.

GENERAL BRAGG.—A report of the campaign in Kentucky has been published by Gen. Bragg. From what we can learn of its purport—for we have not seen it—General Bragg makes out a strong case in his own favor, at the expense of his subordinates. We regret that he has seen fit to publish this report. We always believed in his fidelity to his section, but he was certainly "the black cat" of the Army of Tennessee, from the beginning to the end of his connection with it. Bad luck followed him with unerring certainty, and he always attributed his misfortunes to the conduct of some of his officers. He ascribed the disaster at Stone River to Breckinridge. He ascribed his failure to take advantage of the victory at Chickamaugua to Polk. He charged the disaster at Missionary Ridge to his army generally, and now he says that he would have cut off Buell's army in detail in Kentucky, and destroyed it, if his orders had been obeyed at Perryville. We have had something too much of this. Of course Gen. Bragg's reputation is dear to him, as it should be; but it depends entirely too much on the success of his charges against brave subordinates. Polk, Breckinridge, Buckner and Cheatham were always ready to go where they were told to go, and it is strange that they were always blundering, and that their leader was always in the right. When disaster dimmed the luster of our arms in Virginia, Gen. Lee generally ascribed the failure to himself. Gen. Bragg was never subjected to a similar mortification. He always found a scape goat to bear the burden of defeat.—[Columbus (Miss.) [illegible].

☞ The Democratic Central Committee for the State have [illegible] a call for a State Convention to be held in [illegible], on Tuesday, the 1st of May next. The time and place are [illegible], and, we have no doubt, will be generally approved. The [illegible] of the Convention is [illegible] for [illegible] a [illegible] of the call, [illegible] delegates. For this purpose then, there [illegible] be a meeting in this place on Monday next, being County Court day. To this gathering Democrats and all others who are friends of the Constitution and the rights it embodies and guarantees, all those who believe that color makes a distinction, and are opposed to investing the African with all the rights of a citizen—who do not think with Brownlow, the infamous, that the war ended two years too soon—all who entertain the atrocious and infamous sentiment that this Government was made by white men, and should be administered to subserve the interests of white men, are invited to come.

Throwing aside all past issues and banishing all [illegible] of passion and resentment, let us [illegible] and harmonize and [illegible] to boldly meet the issues forced upon us by the Jacobin Radicals.—[Mercer Banner.